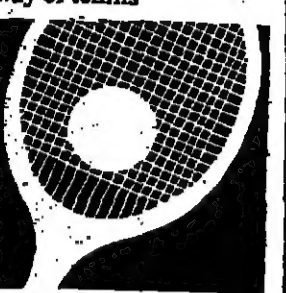


No 61,870

THE TIMES
Saturday
Portfolio

The first weekly £20,000 prize

Anyone for... Martin Amis on the American way of tennis



Wimbledon
Henley and the
Second Test
at Lord's
Night hunter
The mysterious life of the British owl

£4,000 win for Times reader

man who says he is not at all knowledgeable about stocks and shares has won £4,000 in The Times Portfolio competition.

Report, rules and how to play back page. Portfolio list, page 16

Court finds Britain guilty

The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg has found the Government guilty of violating the European Convention on Human Rights by denying prisoners access to their lawyers for internal disciplinary hearings.

German truce

Strike-crippled West Germany could be back to normal by next week, Stuttgart's metal unions claim. They accepted the 38.5hr compromise and voting over the weekend could settle it nationally.

Todd chosen

Ron Todd was elected last night as the successor to Mr. Joslyn (Nelson) Evans as general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Reagan recipe

President Reagan's proposals for closer ties with the Soviet Union were combined with tough talking that reflects the ongoing battle between idealists and pragmatists in his Administration.

Bonn wrangle

West German Chancellor Kohl's new Economics Minister, Herr Martin Bangemann, as sworn in yesterday, criticism of the choice mounted within the coalition and from businessmen.

Turner sale on

The sale of a £2m Turner painting is to go ahead after the settlement of a High Court quibble between members of the Clark family, children of Lord Clark of Salwood, the art historian who died last year.

Marchais stays

Georges Marchais is to continue as leader of the French Communist Party despite severe setbacks suffered in the European elections.

Bullet ballot

Lists of dead and missing are as commonplace in a Guatemalan newspaper as horoscopes. The country where bullets shape events is going to the polls.

Lord Astor, former owner of The Times, dies

By Michael Horsnell
Lord Astor of Hever, former owner of The Times, died yesterday from cancer at his home in Scotland after a short illness. He was 66.

Table with 2 columns: News, Sports, etc. and Page numbers.

Lords inflict savage defeat on Bill to scrap GLC election

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The House of Lords inflicted a savage blow last night to the Government's proposals to cancel May's elections to the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan counties in preparation for their abolition in 1986.

Anger as Cabinet blocks oil 'coup'

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government has taken a calculated gamble with the future of its stock market privatization programme by blocking the international mining group, Rio Tinto, from taking control of Enterprise Oil, the North Sea oil company.

Emotional exchange for PoWs

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

In an emotional and at times macabre ceremony on the Golan Heights, Israel and Syria yesterday exchanged prisoners of war and the bodies of their fallen for the first time in 10 years.

Lord Astor, former owner of The Times, dies

By Michael Horsnell
Lord Astor of Hever, former owner of The Times, died yesterday from cancer at his home in Scotland after a short illness. He was 66.



Broad, surviving his Test (Photograph: Norman Lomax)

Broad leads on day of British success

By Our Sports Staff

The British were at play in earnest yesterday, enjoying unexpected success in the Lord's Test match and at Wimbledon. Meanwhile, the royal regatta at Henley began, and Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett were living up to their reputations in Oslo.

Police shoot man at door of bank

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

A man was shot and seriously wounded by police yesterday at the door of a central London bank.

TV-am out of Olympic coverage

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Commercial television's £5m plans to cover the Olympic Games were in tatters last night after the surprise decision by the breakfast station TV-am to pull out of coverage of the Games.

Disproportionate

Altogether, 291 Syrian POWs and 20 security detainees were set free for six Israelis, who included the three members of the Lebanon Liaison Office captured earlier this year.

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'Star Chamber' move could split miners

By Barrie Clements, Labour Reporter

Mr Arthur Scargill is to tighten his grip on the National Union of Mineworkers with new measures to order working miners to join the 16-week-old strike.

British Steel set to 'fight it out'

From a Correspondent, Harrogate

The vice chairman of the British Steel Corporation Mr Bob Scholey yesterday pledged to step up lorry deliveries of coal and iron ore to Ravenscraig, Scunthorpe and Llanwern, in defiance of attempts by supporters of the miners' strike to block supplies.

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Advertisement for Chanel Gentleman's After Shave. Includes image of a bottle and text: 'A GENTLEMAN'S AFTER SHAVE CHANEL', 'Un splash de rigueur', 'CHANEL FOR GENTLEMEN'.

Child too upset to enter flat after burglary, survey of victims says

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A child aged four who discovered a burglary when returning home alone from nursery school was so upset she would not re-enter the flat, the National Association of Victims' Support Scheme said in its annual report yesterday.

After another case of burglary, an older child refused to go to school. Insecurity can lead to children wishing to stay at home in case things go wrong while they are away, the report said.

Four months after leaving hospital after violent injuries a girl in St Albans was still unable to go out alone in case her father needed help.

A volunteer found a woman, aged 21, was recovering from being robbed at knifepoint but her badly shaken mother became upset every time the victim left the house.

Miss Helen Reeves, the association's director, reports that schemes now provide a service in 194 areas. During 1983, 65,253 victims and their families were offered help. The number of people working voluntarily for victims has risen to 4,045, an increase of 39 per cent in the past year.

Miss Reeves says: "In human terms these studies are indicating a new dimension in the problems facing victims of crime. They are having to cope not only with the shock of the events but also with a belief that no one is concerned about their feelings.

A crime is an important event for most people but all too often they do not know the final outcome and do not feel able to let their worries be known. The crime has become public property and victims feel they are left to cope with the consequences alone. Some lose faith in all the agencies which exist to protect them."

The association has for the first time surveyed types of crime referred to local schemes. The sample shows that 75.5 per cent of the total is burglary, which includes all thefts from private dwellings; 12.4 per cent is other property offences, including theft from the person not involving violence, criminal damage and then of other private property; 9.8 per cent is violence, which includes robbery with violence, assault, sexual offence and homicide; and 2.3 per cent represents referrals other than crime which cover a wide range of personal distress including road traffic accidents, sudden deaths and other crimes.

The report said that the value of the volunteer as a stranger prepared to listen to any outburst is illustrated by the case of a couple in their early 30s with a six-month-old baby who suffered distress after a burglary.

In addition to the property stolen the baby's clothes were strewn around the mother felt unable to touch or use them. The couple feared the burglars had their telephone number as they began to receive phantom calls.



Brave brother: Gareth Morgan, aged five, who rescued his sister Cara, aged 18 months, from their 2ft-deep garden swimming pool in Redditch, near Birmingham, on Wednesday. He has been recommended for a life-saving award. Gareth, a pupil at St Luke's Primary School, hit Cara on the back until she was breathing again.

Car-price plan 'puts jobs at risk'

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent

European Economic Community proposals to force manufacturers to bring car prices into line throughout Europe could lead to a loss of up to three million jobs and do irreparable damage to an already weakened car industry, it was claimed yesterday.

In the most controversial report yet published on the Commission's proposals, Professor Krish Bhaskar and his motor industry research unit at the University of East Anglia, said that Austin Rover could be devastated just when it was emerging from painful years of reorganization.

With car prices in Britain more than 20 per cent higher than in some EEC countries, they would have to be cut savagely to comply with the proposed 12 per cent maximum variation between countries. That is the ceiling on the difference in retail prices suggested by the commission.

On the basis of Professor Bhaskar's estimate that a 1 per cent cut in prices would cost £1.22m, a 5 per cent cut would send it into a deficit of more than £100m, compared with last year's profit of £2m.

The report said that the days of large profits appear to be over for European car companies. Falling revenues and a high cost base meant that manufacturers were relieved if they managed to break even.

Unless the regulation was amended, some manufacturers would choose to close plants in high-cost countries and switch production to more favourable sites, the report said.

Professor Bhaskar, a prolific author of motor industry reports, believed that there was a compromise. He wanted to see a nine-year transition period during which the Commission would redouble its efforts to harmonize the widely differing economic and fiscal policies of member states that made common pricing impossible today.

The Consumers' Association, which has taken a leading part in the campaign to end manufacturers' restrictions on fair pricing across boundaries, said last night: "It is time the Commission showed it is not just a manufacturers' club and enforced the free and fair competitive trading it is sworn to uphold."

Car Pricing in Europe (Ronald Sewell & Associates, 1 Queen's Square, Bath: £38).

Motoring, page 29

Gaming law charge over raffle of mansion

A millionaire gambler who raffled his Georgian Mansion home in the Irish Republic this year has been charged with contravening the republic's gaming laws.

Mr Barney Curley organized a lottery to dispose of his £1.5m mansion and 377 acres at Middleton Park, near Mullingar, Co Westmeath. The winning ticket was drawn on behalf of a syndicate of six, including a Tewkesbury man, who paid £175 for the ticket, one of 9,000 sold.

Mr Curley was charged yesterday at Kilbeggan District Court in Co Westmeath with unlawfully promoting a lottery contrary to the Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1956.

Under that act it is illegal to promote a lottery for purposes other than a charity. Also charged was Mr Michael O'Hehir, Irish sports commentator, who pulled the winning ticket from the drum in the raffle. Three men were also charged with unlawfully selling tickets for use in the lottery. Legal sources say that despite the charges, the syndicate will be able to keep the estate.

Gold coin fraud sentences cut

Two men involved in a £3m gold coins fraud had their sentences reduced in the Court of Appeal yesterday because they had been charged under the wrong law.

Sentences on Gordon Campbell Turner, of Swiss Cottage, London, were cut from seven years to four, and one on Wilfred Haydn Rees, of Wembley, from 30 months to two years, after the court substituted convictions under the Customs and Excise Act for common law convictions of conspiracy to defraud.

Family of dead girl drunk

Nine relatives of Mary Brown, aged two, who was killed in a road accident on Saturday in Buckinghamshire, were given a three-month conditional discharge yesterday by High Wycombe magistrates after admitting being drunk and disorderly.

Some of the gypsies, from High Heavens Camp, Booker, High Wycombe, were lying by the roadside on Tuesday, others were creating a disturbance at a shop and garage nearby.

Oxford's old debt settled

The Treasury, after 775 years, has settled a debt for death and damage caused by Oxford people in 1209.

The Government has been paying £3.08 a year compensation to Oxford University after people in the city hanged the students for helping a student to murder his mistress. Now the university has accepted a one-off payment of £33.08 in settlement.

Poles undercut fruit growers

Britain's strawberry industry could go out of business, growers said yesterday. Mr Tom Bliss, chairman of Wisbech Strawberry Growers' Association, said that his members were being undercut by the Poles and that the whole trade was in turmoil.

As picking started on the crop, worth £2.5m, he said: "If we halved our prices tomorrow the Poles would undercut us by £20 a ton. They have an immense foreign debt and must earn currency."

Medical record

Mr Joe Ascoug, who has had 323 throat operations in 48 years, is set for a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Mr Ascoug, aged 49, of Baslow Drive, Lenton Abbey, Nottingham, is due to go into hospital soon for more surgery. The present record holder is an American who underwent 112 operations in 64 years.

Vets urge a £5 fee for dog licences

By John Young

The dog licence fee should be raised to £5 from the present 37p and the revenue used to finance a new local authority dog warden service, the British Veterinary Association said yesterday.

In a memorandum that could well form the basis for early legislation, the association says that the law relating to dogs should be consolidated into a single Act.

Apart from guide dogs for the blind and hearing dogs for the deaf, there should be no exemptions from the licence fee, it says. It should be a legal requirement to obtain a licence before owning a dog, and an offence to sell or give a dog to an unlicensed person. Children under 16 should not be issued with licences.

Every dog should be identified, either by a tattoo or a collar bearing a tag. Wardens would be empowered to obtain information on ownership and to inspect licences.

Mr Neal King, the association's senior vice-president, said yesterday that the annual licence amounted to £750,000, and cost £3,750,000 to collect.

Possible alternatives, were to abandon licences altogether, which could lead to disaster if rabies ever got into Britain, or to set the licence fee at a new arbitrary figure with no commitment to use the money for improving controls. The association would oppose either step. It favoured a moderate fee in return for a warden scheme.

Doubt over home sale package

By Christopher Warman

Property Correspondent

Solicitors have cast doubt at the claims of a cut-price conveyancing firm, Homex, that it can provide a full legal conveyancing package at about 40 per cent below average solicitors' charges.

Solicitors' charges vary considerably, but the Law Society, which represents about 44,000 practising solicitors, says that on average the cost of conveyancing is between .75 and 1 per cent of the price of the property.

In claiming that its charges substantially undercut those of solicitors, Homex offers comparative examples based on a 1 per cent charge by the solicitor, common in the London area.

For the sale of a £40,000 house, Homex says that the solicitor's charge would be £480, made up of £400 plus £60 VAT plus about £20 disbursements.

For house buyers, Homex charges an administration fee of £57.50 and 0.55 per cent of the sale price (with an extra 0.05 per cent, if registered land). The total on a £40,000 house would be £277.50.

For house buyers, Homex charges the registration fee of £57.50 plus 0.55 per cent of the house price (0.05 per cent extra for unregistered land), making £317.50. Homex's putative average for a solicitor is £515, made up of the same 1 per cent basic charge plus value added tax and slightly higher disbursements.

Mr Ian Jefferson, a solicitor who is a joint partner in Homex, admits: "I have no doubt at all that there are firms of solicitors that do not charge 1 per cent, but I can also produce a list of solicitors' bills which support the basis of the comparative costs."

An earlier report in the *Times* provoked a flood of evidence from solicitors showing that they are cheaper than the average quoted, and in some cases cheaper than Homex. One solicitor in Gloucestershire charges, for a sale and £375 for a purchase, both plus value added tax and disbursements, while another solicitor, in the same area charges an extra £25 for a purchase.

The Law Society believes that solicitors' charges have in fact been reduced by about 13 per cent because of increasing competition in the last 10 years.

● The public will suffer and many lawyers in private practice will be put out of business if the Government presses ahead with plans to end Scottish solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing.

Police build riot training town

By Stewart Teasdale, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard is building a five-acre mock-up of a section of city streets, complete with houses, shops, and offices, for riot training.

The complex is being built at one of the Metropolitan Police's training grounds, at Hounslow, west London, near Heathrow airport. When it is completed late next year senior officers believe it will be the most advanced and largest practice ground of its kind.

Based on an idea developed by the army to train soldiers for the 'streets' of Belfast and Londonderry, the complex will try to present all the types of problem officers might find in a riot.

At the centre of the complex is a main road of about 250 yards. Along the road builders will construct three dimensional imitations of a bank and shops, interspersed with concrete facades portraying other buildings.

A row of terrace houses, garages, a railway arch, and other buildings, will be built on side roads. A sound system will simulate the noise of a riot.

The layout will also include a "tactical training block" to provide specialist situations such as the holding of hostages or a siege.

Up to 5,000 London officers receive specialist riot training four days a year. The complex will be used to test them and their commanders. Television cameras will monitor exercises from a control tower.

The site will be used by officers and it has been designed so that specialist groups such as the diplomatic patrol group can hold their training exercises.

It has taken builders nine months to lay the foundations of more than a dozen streets, alleys, and service areas for the complex. The building of the structures will start next month.

The last stage of the construction will involve building the two-storey control tower and the elaborate television system, with 32 closed-circuit cameras, which will allow the recording of exercises.

Telling jury face clash of evidence

The judge in the headless corpse trial yesterday told jurors they might see in the bizarre story of the killing a "variation on a not unknown theme".

They might think it was a story of an ill-matched couple, of love alternating with intense hatred, and of killing. Mr Justice Sheldon said at Exeter Crown Court.

In his summing up to the jury he said that they must put aside their emotions and dispassionately consider the evidence. It was part of their task to decide between the conflicting views of leading psychiatrists in consulting whether Michael Telling's defence of diminished responsibility should succeed or not.



Lord Soper: "jollying it along."

Soper plan for joint ministry

Lord Soper, aged 81, the doyen of Methodist preachers, said yesterday that he had once sought ordination as an Anglican priest while continuing as a Methodist minister (Clifford Longley writes).

The scheme founded on the unwillingness of the Bishop of London, then Dr Robert Stopford, to give it his blessing.

It was 20 years ago, but "the great disappointment of my life", Lord Soper said. "At that time Anglican-Methodist unity was a real possibility, and the idea of his operating as a clergyman of both denominations at once was devised 'to jolly it along'." The scheme is to be discussed in a book on the history of Methodism to be published shortly.

By-pass opens

A by-pass for the A47 trunk road on the Cambridgeshire-Norfolk boundary at Wisbech and West Watton Highway was opened yesterday three months ahead of schedule. The six miles of carriageway cost £4.5m.

Winter toll worries insurers

By Our Property Correspondent

The British Insurance Association is to investigate whether premiums on property should be increased because of increasing claims for weather damage.

Property damage last winter resulted in an extra £175m in payments of claims, mainly after storm damage in Scotland and the north of England. By the end of January, damage was estimated at £70m, but severe conditions later in the winter and in early spring more than doubled the total.

The previous winter was not so severe, and weather damage claims did not feature separately in costs for 1982-83, but in 1981-82, the bad winter cost insurers £250m.

SAS inquiry to reopen

The Department of the Environment is to reopen a public inquiry into a plan by the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) to extend its training area near Hereford after a complaint was made to the National Council for Civil Liberties.

The inquiry had been closed early because of a misunderstanding, the department said.

Downtown tops the ratings

By David Hewson

Arts Correspondent

Belfast's Downtown Radio is the most popular of Britain's commercial radio stations, according to listening figures just released.

The eight-year-old Northern Ireland station has consistently topped commercial radio audience charts, and the most recent figures say that 57 per cent of the population in its area tune into Downtown each week.

A measure of Downtown's popularity can be gauged by comparing figures from London's two commercial stations, Capital and LBC, which between them reach 49 per cent of the capital's population.

Downtown has won a loyal audience against strong competition by its insistence on putting hard news among its priorities.

Mr Ivan Timman, Downtown's managing director, said: "We have very much developed on the basis of music, news, and information services."

The station's news policy has given it several scoops and the province's troubles have in consequence, made it the automatic listening choice of local residents and visiting journalists who want to know what is happening.

Warning over 'virus' of cut-price air fares

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The new £49 air fare between London and Amsterdam, due to come into effect this weekend, could "spread like a virus throughout Europe" the 20-nation Association of European Airlines said yesterday.

But Mr Karl-Henrich Neumeister, its secretary-general, issued a warning that greater liberalization of air travel in Europe could end in a high-priced cartel with subsidization of unwanted capacity.

Free competition among airlines, as advocated by Britain and The Netherlands, while seeking to achieve liberalization

within a common market, could result, like steel and agriculture, in a capacity cartel with less efficient producers subsidized by higher value-added tax charges, Mr Neumeister said.

● Suggestions that the Anglo-Dutch airline agreement, approved the £49 fare between London and Amsterdam, would lead to a widespread reduction of European air fares were dismissed in Belfast yesterday by Mr Michael Bishop, executive of British Midland Airways (our Belfast correspondent writes).

Resort boom adds to record tourist year

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A record tourist year for Britain was forecast yesterday by the British Tourist Authority as overseas visitors in April leapt to 1.9 million, an increase of 16 per cent on last year's total.

At the same time, an English Tourist Board survey of resorts showed that almost all the main ones were expecting a better summer season than last year, which is known to have been a record for domestic tourism.

But the board's survey showed that cancellations are coming in from mining areas to resorts such as Scarborough, Skagness, Blackpool, and Great Yarmouth.

The board's monitoring of resorts showed Poole, Dorset, with summer self-catering accommodation almost totally booked.

Overseas visitors in the first months of this year numbered 3.4 million, an increase of 12 per cent on the corresponding period last year. They spent an estimated £590m.

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PARLIAMENT June 28 1984

Government move keeps Enterprise Oil independent

COMMONS

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, defended in the Commons the under-subscribed flotation of Enterprise Oil, after Opposition MPs called the sale disastrous.

Following the attempted takeover by Rio Tinto-Zinc, the international mining group, he announced that the Government had exercised its power of rejection to ensure that no single company held more than 10 per cent of the equity. From tomorrow, he told MPs, there would be a new, independent and strong oil company in Britain.

Enterprise Oil was set up last year as a vehicle for privatizing North Sea assets formerly owned by the British Gas Corporation.

Mr Walker: The application list opened and closed yesterday for the sale of 212 million shares at a minimum tender price of 185p a share, payable in two instalments.

The issue was underwritten successfully and in full on June 19 by a wide range of institutions. The share market generally, and the oil market in particular, have substantially weakened between the underwriting of the issue and the opening of the list. Applications were received for 66.4 per cent of the ordinary share capital. Rio Tinto Zinc have announced that they applied for 49 per cent of the shares. All their applications were made through nominees.

At the outset, the Government clearly stated its intention that Enterprise could be an independent oil exploration and production company. The board and the staff of the company were recruited on that basis.

The Government's intention to ensure the continued independence of Enterprise for an initial period was clearly stated in the prospectus. To secure this the Government took two special steps.

First, it retained complete discretion to reject in whole or in part any application for shares on flotation of the company; and second, it retained a special share which, in effect, gives the Government a majority of shareholders' votes in the event of a takeover or attempted takeover of the company, for as long as such a situation continues.

These steps were designed to enable the board and management to establish Enterprise as a new independent British oil company.

In keeping with this approach the Government has decided to exercise its power of rejection with a view to ensuring that no single individual or company, directly or through nominees, should hold beneficially more than 10 per cent of the equity as a result of the flotation.

On this basis applications for over 50m ordinary shares from more than 13,000 applicants have been accepted as valid and allocations will be made at the minimum tender price of 185p per share. The remaining shares will be taken up by the underwriters and sub-underwriters at the minimum tender price.

Finally, the Government wishes to make it clear that it is its firm intention to use the powers available to it to ensure the independence of Enterprise at this

stage of its development consistent with the objectives specified in the prospectus.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said the sale of Enterprise Oil had been a disastrous flop. It had been a bigger flop than Britoil and a sell out for the real shareholders - the British taxpayer.

He asked when Mr Walker knew of RTZ's manoeuvres and what was magic about the figure of 10 per cent.

It is not obvious (he added) that the solution is to cancel this issue and retain Enterprise Oil as a public corporation? After Amersham, after Britoil, after Wych Farm - now the Enterprise Oil scandal.

We call on the Government to abandon its policy of public asset stripping.

Mr Walker said from Mr Orme's comments there was no impression that from tomorrow (Friday) Britain would have in the private sector a new independent and strong oil company.

I was informed yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon by RTZ, the addressee, that they had decided to accept the offer. Then we decided, in the context of what was in the prospectus, the steps we have taken.

It would be a considerable advantage to have a company with the size and strength in management of this new one, in the private sector. It should make a great contribution to success in North Sea oil fields.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP) said the sale would not increase competition and asked Mr Walker to explain how it could be of benefit.

This disastrous sale of Enterprise Oil (he added) will considerably undermine the flotation of British Telecom later in the year.

Mr Walker: If Mr Wrigglesworth is really suggesting that a company of this size and ability will not add strength to our competition at home and abroad, he is mistaken.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab) said we are awaiting some further explanation as to how he might block RTZ in terms of having a member on the board of the company. It is happy to have such a large number of shares in their hands because of the Government's incompetence?

It is time the Government stopped this facade of selling public assets and abandoned plans for the sale of British Telecom.

Mr Walker said the underwriters made their estimation of the price and they were happy to underwrite. The fact that in that week the spot price of oil had considerably fallen was a risk the underwriters would have assessed.

Mr Jonathan Atkins (Thanet South, C) said this problem would not have arisen if the Government's timing had not been dictated by commercial forces.

Mr Walker: In the nature of the market and the situation in the Middle East and Opec production, there is unlikely to be any time that the guaranteed stability.

Mr Myerby Rees (Leeds South and Huddersfield, Lab) said it would have been better for the Government to have taken the advice from the Public

Walker: Oil market has substantially weakened

Accounts Committee which warned of this particular thing. The Government ignored that advice.

Mr Walker: The committee suggested that an offer such as this should be done by tender and that is exactly what we did.

Mr Eric Cockram (Ludlow, C): The sudden drop in the oil market in the few days preceding this issue demonstrates the benefit of an underwriting system.

Mr Walker: With an issue of this nature, it is right to take underwriters.

Mr Tam Dabell (Llanidloes, Lab): How can the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, sit there without blushing to the roots of his skin? Does he recall the long lectures he used to give us on oil and gas assets in committee on the importance of timing?

What does he have to say now about this whole question of timing? Should not he admit that it is a rip off?

Mr Walker: Either you suggest that the fact that more people did not tender means the price was too high, in which case you can hardly call it a rip off, or alternatively you suggest the underwriters made a correct assessment as to the value of the company and therefore there is no problem in adding by underwriting principles.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle (Lincoln, C): All experience proves the North Sea is best developed by private enterprise.

Mr Walker: There is no doubt private enterprise has had a considerable success story in the North Sea.

The basic financial strength and the prospects of this company, and the quality of the management, are such that it will make an important contribution to activities in the North Sea and abroad in the years to come.

Mr Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Lab) said British Gas had never been operators in terms of oil in the North Sea. They have had interests and assets. We now have a highly skilled, high quality management who will be operating to the benefit of this country.

Mr Thomas Skelton (Bolton West, C): This underwriting has been a great success for the British taxpayer who will now be receiving a higher price for the shares than is now deemed to be the level.

Mr Walker: I believe the investment underwriters will be making through their underwriting responsibilities what will prove to be a perfectly sound investment.

In a week of considerable instability in the oil market the underwriting system has seen to it that this issue has been placed in the hands of the Chancellor who will receive £392m and a new, successful, private enterprise company will have been launched.

Government defeat on paving Bill by 48 votes

HOUSE OF LORDS

The proposed cancellation of elections to the Greater London Council and the six metropolitan county councils following second reading of the main local government Bill in the House of Commons was a negation of the proud parliamentary traditions of the country and would undermine the pillars on which the unwritten constitution stood, Lord Elystan Morgan said when opening the committee stage of the Local Government (Interim Provisions) Bill in the House of Lords.

He was moving an all party amendment that "This Act shall not come into force until a decision by Parliament has been taken on the continued existence of the GLC and the metropolitan county councils, and such decision shall not be deemed to have taken place until Royal Assent has been given to an Act dealing with these matters."

The amendment was designed, he said, to prevent the Secretary of State from ordering the cancellation of the elections and the setting up of nominated interim councils until Parliament had approved, if it so wished, the main abolition Bill.

The aim of the amendment (he went on) is to ensure that the GLC and the metropolitan county councils, and until Parliament - and I say Parliament not one chamber - decides what is to take the place of the existing councils.

In doing so, the amendment would protect the proper constitutional position of the House of Lords and also ensure the proper parliamentary process needed on such controversial legislation.

If passed, the amendment would also protect democracy and the rights of the electors of the county council and metropolitan council areas.

What the Secretary of State was proposing to do was based on wholly unacceptable assumptions. No true parliamentary (he said) can believe in the unilateral imposition of a decision for granted, as the Government apparently does, that both Houses

of Parliament, whatever the majority of the government party may have, are necessarily going to pass a measure in the future on the strength only of a second reading in the House of Commons.

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Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

"Increasingly the issue of British politics has become the sort of leadership the nation really wants," Mr David Steel wrote a letter to all Liberal candidates this week. He is right. Personal style has become a political obsession.

The most telling criticisms that Mr Francis Pym has to make of Mrs Thatcher in his book are of her leadership style: "the public tone of the Government has often sounded unattractive and unsympathetic". Her "intractable, dominating, uncaring and strident" image has been blamed for the Conservative's election defeat in a private report by Wessex Conservatives.

Mrs Thatcher is not however the only leader whose style has been brought into question. One of the principal reasons for Labour's shattering defeat in the general election was that Mr Foot simply did not look to electors like a potential Prime Minister. Nor is the current concentration upon style a purely British phenomenon. President Reagan is the supreme example of a leader whose political success rests upon the appeal of his personality rather than upon the achievements of his policies.</

Arrest of revolutionary hero puts Portugal's security Bill in jeopardy

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

Bill faces tough treatment before Parliament rises for the summer recess. A leading socialist former minister has already promised to propose amendments to police powers to search homes, detain suspects and tap telephones without getting a magistrate's warrant beforehand.

Dr Soares, embarrassingly on an official visit to Japan when the police to carry out a nationwide swoop, says he feels "personally hurt" by the arrest of the 47-year-old colonel with extreme left-wing views. But a democratic Government must respect the courts' moves, he said.

The man in the hot seat is Senator Rui Machete, the 44-year-old Social Democrat Justice Minister and an expert in administrative law. He has both to defend the police action and answer the critics who argue that the swoop demonstrates that Portugal does not need more legislation but perhaps more efficient police.

"It is better to act first," the minister told *The Times*. A telephone tap on suspects, for instance, could become known by others if a magistrate's order was required beforehand, instead of afterwards as the Bill proposed.

The controversial detention of Lieutenant Colonel Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho, still one of the popular figures of the April 1974 revolution, has upset the Portuguese Government's aim to establish swiftly and quietly an intelligence agency to combat international and domestic terrorism.

No such agency has existed in Portugal since the Salazar regime's secret police, the Pide, was swept away by the revolution. Two acts of international terrorism last year brought home to the Portuguese the need for one - the assassination of a leading Palestine Liberation Organization official at the hotel where the Socialist International was meeting, and an Armenian assault on the Turkish Embassy - as well as a rash of bank robberies and left-wing killings of Portuguese businessmen.

The Government of Dr Mario Soares had to act, and Parliament last month agreed in principle to an agency responsible to the Prime Minister.

But now, with "Otelo", as everyone still calls him, detained in Caxias outside Lisbon, the very jail the Pide once used, together with a group of alleged urban guerrillas which the police claim he leads, things have gone awry.

The Government's Internal Security and Civil Protection

"This kind of legislation always has some risks. Intelligence gathering is a risky activity, but it is also a necessity," Senator Machete said, indicating the Government's willingness to consider amendments to improve the text.

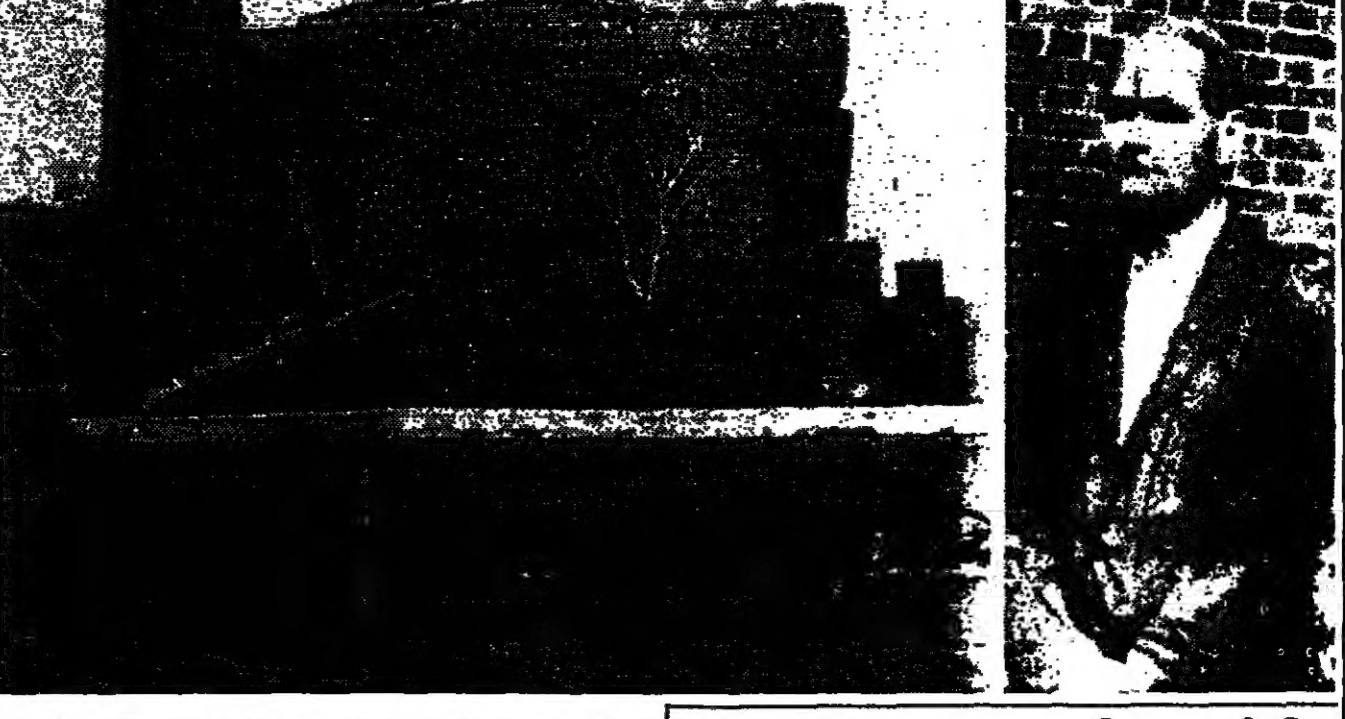
But he emphasized that Portugal's 1976 democratic constitution bore the scars of the Salazar experience, and that Portugal must catch up on the lessons of German and Italian answers to terrorism.

Meanwhile, as "Otelo" stays incarcerated for up to 20 days on a magistrate order, the head of Lisbon's Bar Council has protested to the Justice Minister that, when a lawyer went to see the colonel in Caxias, a police inspector was present throughout. That contravened the constitution, he said.

Even if the Bill gets through Parliament and is signed into law by President Eanes, its provisions can be contested before the Constitutional Court.

Expresso the weekly of Senator Francisco into Balsemão, the former Social Democrat Prime Minister, has weighed in with an editorial arguing that, if the courts do not convict those now arrested, the Government will have proved itself incapable of combating terrorism.

Spandau marked for destruction when Hess dies



Britain has secret plans to pull down Spandau Prison (above) within 48 hours of the death of its only prisoner, Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy.

Military sources in West Berlin say the bulldozers will destroy the crumbling prison as soon as the four doctors who attend the prisoner, who is now aged 90, confirm he has died.

The aim is to prevent any display of sympathy by neo-Nazis. Hess will be cremated after his death and his ashes scattered, to leave no grave as a rallying point and a British forces Naafi complex will be built on the site.

Hess has been a prisoner of the Allies since he fled to Scotland in 1941. He has been the sole inmate at Spandau for the last 18 years.

One observation post is said to be haunted. A British soldier has shot at a ghost he claimed he saw. One night a French guard inexplicably leapt to his death from the same post.

Hess, who is reported to be looking well, spends much of his time reading. All guards are instructed not to speak to him.

France presses for quick Lomé Convention deal

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

France is putting pressure on the 734 delegates attending negotiations between the 10 EEC countries and their 64 African, Caribbean and Pacific Convention.

A long, hard negotiating session was opened in Luxembourg yesterday by M Claude Cheysson, the French External Relations Minister who masterminded the original Lomé Convention in 1975.

M Cheysson was therefore particularly anxious to clear away as many as possible of the remaining difficulties still preventing agreement on the third convention, scheduled to come into force next February. He hoped this would be a last jewel in the crown of the current French EEC presidency, which comes to an end tomorrow.

Arguments to be settled include how much trade access the ACP countries should have to EEC markets.

Turner axe trims the Cabinet

From John Best, Ottawa

Sweeping Cabinet changes are being made as Mr John Turner prepares for his swearing-in as Canada's new Prime Minister tomorrow.

Mr Allan MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and veteran Minister for External Affairs, is one of four ministers who have already announced they are leaving.

A number of others will undoubtedly be nudged aside as Mr Turner seeks to reduce the Cabinet from 35 members - to which it grew under his predecessor, Mr Pierre Trudeau - to about 27. The new line-up will be made public tomorrow.

Mr MacEachen, aged 62, told a press conference in his home province of Nova Scotia on Wednesday that he had lost his taste for politics now that his long-time leader, Mr Trudeau, was leaving office.

He said he could have a job in Mr Turner's Cabinet if he had wished. But two other ministers, both unsuccessful contenders against Mr Turner in the recent Liberal Party leadership race, have been told there is no place for them in the new lineup. They are Mr John Munro, Minister of Northern Affairs, and Mr Eugene Whelan, Minister of Agriculture.

Much speculation surrounds the future of Mr Jean Chretien, Minister of Energy, who ran second to Mr Turner at the leadership convention and who the Prime Minister-designate would like to keep in the Cabinet.

Economics Minister sworn in Kohl moves swiftly to mend coalition

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Martin Bangemann, the new minister of Economics was sworn in by Parliament yesterday morning as Chancellor Helmut Kohl moved swiftly to limit the damage to his coalition Government caused by the resignation of Count Otto Lambsdorff.

The 49-year-old former Euro-MP was appointed officially on Wednesday evening, less than 24 hours after Count Lambsdorff resigned after being told he would be sent for trial on corruption charges.

The speed of the appointment was strongly criticized by the Chancellor's main coalition partner, the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union, which said he should have waited until its leader, Herr Franz Josef Strauss, was available again after the death of his wife.

Herr Theo Waigel, the CSU parliamentary floor leader, said Herr Strauss had a claim to a Cabinet post himself, and the party has apparently accepted Herr Bangemann only on condition that there is a full-scale Cabinet reshuffle after the summer recess. Observers predict that Herr Strauss will renew his long-standing claim to be Foreign Minister in place of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, whose weakened position as leader of the Free Democrats (FDP) will make it very hard for Herr Kohl to resist any such claim by Herr Strauss.

Questions have been asked inside the Government and in business circles about the competence of Herr Bangemann, who is not a familiar name to West German voters nor a member of the Bundestag - an unusual situation, possible under the constitution but with few precedents.

Herr Bangemann has admitted he knows little about economics, but has said, in contrast to Count Lambsdorff, that he wants better cooperation with the unions. This will be important at the present time of industrial conflict.

However, businessmen and commentators said the expertise of Count Lambsdorff, who was minister of Economics for seven years under Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and Herr Kohl, would be sorely missed.

Herr Bangemann was one of the first FDP members to advocate a coalition with the Christian Democrats when the party was still in government with the Social Democrats. There are strong indications that he will be named as party chairman when Herr Genscher steps down, and that this might come sooner than expected.

The FDP executive is meeting on July 9 to decide when Herr Genscher should go. Once he has lost his party post, it will be hard for him to remain Foreign Minister and Vice-Chancellor in view of the FDP's dwindling electoral support compared with the CSU.

Banda lifts death threat on couple

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

Last year's death sentences passed on Mr. Orton Chirwa, Q.C. (right) and his wife Vera, leaders of the opposition in Malawi, have been commuted to life imprisonment on the orders of President Hastings Banda, it was learnt in London last night.

The news was immediately welcomed by the Foreign Office as a "humanitarian gesture" and by Amnesty International who have led a campaigning to free the veteran politician and his lawyer wife since they were convicted of treason in May 1983.

But Amnesty also renewed the appeal for their release from jail and pointed to the



solitary confinement, cramped conditions and had food that their son Fumbani Chirwa endured for two years in Malawi, without being brought to trial, before his recent release.

Fumbani Chirwa and Amnesty had been planning a fresh appeal on the Chirwas behalf.

Walesa refuses to quit Solidarity leadership

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's leading Marxist philosopher was expelled yesterday from the Communist Party, accused of undermining its unity and breaking ranks on many key points of the ideological creed. Professor Adam Schaff, who is on record as saying that General Jaruzelski should receive the Nobel Peace Prize for declaring martial law, has been an outspoken critic of the way communism was imposed in Poland.

The Central Control Commission of the party announced yesterday that Professor Schaff, aged 71, had ignored a previous warning and violated fundamental party doctrine by publicizing internal disputes.

In an interview with a Western magazine, Professor Schaff said recently that the Communist Party should have been dissolved after the declaration of martial law and then gradually rebuilt.

The real Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mr Lech Walesa, told *The Times* yesterday that he would stand firm in his position as the *De Facto*, but officially ignored leader of Solidarity, before local council elections, he stated that he might consider stepping down if the results showed a lack of support.

Mr Walesa said yesterday: "I will keep my present position, and in fact will step up my efforts to put into practice the agreements of August, 1980 (which gave birth to Solidarity)... I will serve my homeland with all the peaceful means at my disposal. When the children of August, 1980, are free, then I will put my position at their disposal".

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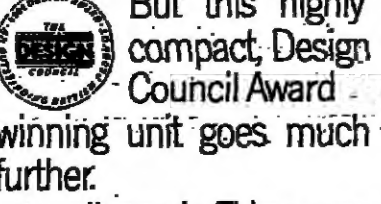
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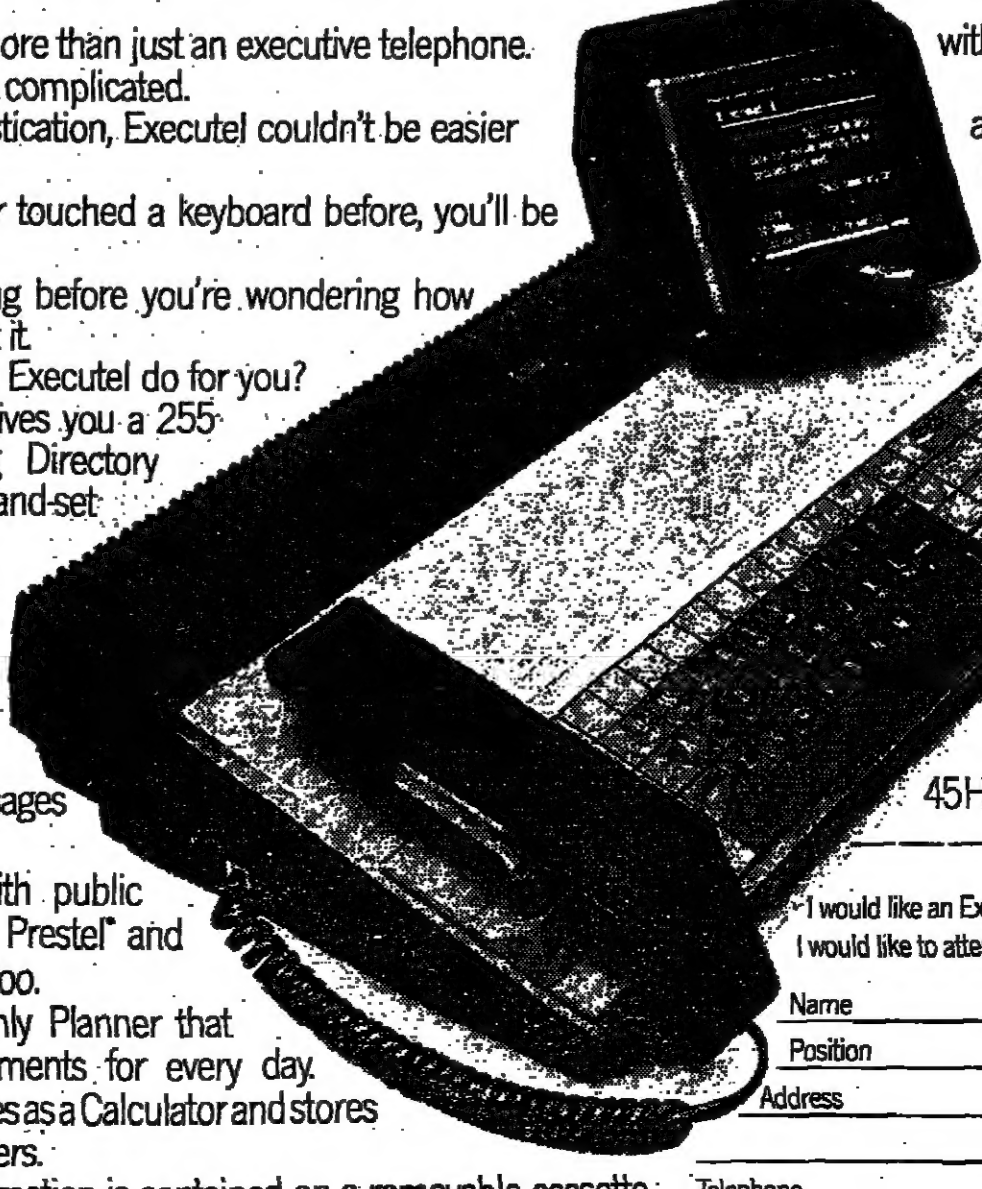
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Compromise formula wins support

Peace near in German strike

From Michael Binyon Bonn

Leaders of the metalworkers' union in the Stuttgart region yesterday accepted peace proposals in the engineering dispute clearing the way for an end to West Germany's most costly strike since the war. It has lasted almost seven weeks and brought the car industry to virtual standstill.

The union voted after five hours heated debate to accept the formula announced on Wednesday by Herr Georg Leber, head of the eight-man arbitration panel. This proposed a general 90-minute cut in the 40-hour week starting next April. An immediate 3.3 per cent wage increase with a further 2 per cent in April, and a one-time payment of DM250 (about £70) to backdate the

agreement to the end of the last wages contract.

The formula has already been accepted by both union and employers' representatives on the arbitration panel.

Final acceptance on Wednesday night by the Stuttgart branch of IG Metall, the engineering union, was held up when about 50 left-wingers interrupted the debate of the ages committee with noisy protests and objections. They said the offer did not go far enough towards a 35-hour week. The union's original demand.

The compromise was stringently defended, however, by both Herr Hans Mayr, national chairman of IG Metall, and Herr Ernst Eisenmann, the Stuttgart regional leader, who said the employers' taboo on a general cut in the working week had now been broken.

The peace proposals give latitude to individual factories to negotiate house agreements for longer or shorter hours based on a 38.5-hour norm. They will be put to a general vote by the Stuttgart region's membership today and on Monday. Only 25 per cent of the total vote needs to be cast in favour of a resumption of work, compared with the 75 per cent needed for calling a strike.

The formula applies only to the Stuttgart region. But it is almost certain to be approved in the Frankfurt area, where metalworkers have also been on strike for more than a month. Work could resume throughout the country early next week.

Altogether the strike has made 453,000 people idle and led to production losses totalling an estimated 360,000 vehicles at a cost of DM 9,000.

Economists have already said it has done lasting damage in slowing down the rate of Germany's economic recovery, and car manufacturers fear that foreign cars will have made inroads into the profitable German market. However, the strike at vital component plants has also led to production difficulties in foreign firms relying on German components.

There were hopes that the settlement might raise the chances of an end to the strikes in the printing industry which have crippled newspaper production throughout the country. On Wednesday some 17,000 printers in 290 plants were called out again to back their union's demand for a 35-hour week, and many newspapers did not appear or came out only in thin editions.

Disqualified parties cleared to contest Israeli election

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv

The Supreme Court in Jerusalem yesterday cleared the controversial Kach and the "Progressive List for Peace" to stand in the July 23 parliamentary elections. This overruled the Central Elections Committee, which had voted by a majority to disqualify them and raises the number of parties competing for the 120 seats to 26.

The ruling was handed down by an extraordinary panel of five justices. They agreed unanimously that no grounds existed to disqualify the entries without explaining their de-

cision. They reserved their judgment for a later date.

The Progressive List comprises Arab Palestinian nationalists and dovish Jews in alternate slots. It was disqualified by the elections committee because it was said to hold subversive opinions. It also maintained that key figures on the List were "identified with the enemies of Israel".

The party acknowledged that it recognised the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, but said this applied only to Palestinians outside Israel. It denied it was subversive and said it wanted a Palestinian state.

The committee decided that Kach, led by Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Jewish Defence League leader, advocated racist and anti-democratic principles. It openly supported acts of terror, attempted to fan hatred and hostility between different Israeli communities, and defended the religious feelings of others, the committee added.

Kach competed unsuccessfully in three previous elections but surveys indicated it will make it this time.

Leading Jewish members of the recently formed Progressive List belong to Sheli, which has been represented in the past in Parliament but was defeated in 1981. Arab factor, page 12

Storm over Jews sours Jackson's Cuba trip

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The Rev Jesse Jackson, the black presidential candidate, accompanied by a motley collection of American and Cuban prisoners released from Cuban jails, was flying back to the US last night to face a new controversy caused by anti-semitic remarks by one of his leading supporters, Mr Louis Farrakhan.

The storm has completely overshadowed Mr Jackson's achievement in negotiating with President Castro the release of 22 Americans, most of whom had been held on drug convictions, and 26 Cuban political prisoners.

In a speech in Chicago last weekend Mr Farrakhan reportedly said that Judaism was a "gutter religion" and that the nations which helped create Israel and now support Israel were "criminals in the sight of Almighty God".

Mr Farrakhan, a major financial contributor to the Jackson campaign, has denied calling Judaism a "gutter religion".

Other outbursts by Mr Farrakhan have got Mr Jackson into trouble in the past. Mr Jackson has steadfastly refused to repudiate Mr Farrakhan's comments.

Pressure is now building up in the Democratic Party to deny Mr Jackson permission to address the party's national convention in San Francisco next month unless he publicly disassociates himself from the black Muslim leader.

Mr Walter Mondale described Mr Farrakhan's remarks as "utterly outrageous and unacceptable". Republican leaders, delighted at the embarrassment which Mr Farrakhan is causing their opponents, have urged the Democratic Party to repudiate Mr Jackson's key backer.

The row poses a dilemma for the Democratic leadership, which fears it could erupt into a nasty floor fight between Jews and blacks at the convention.

● DUBLIN: Mr Jesse Jackson called for the withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland, saying they would "no more bring peace than US troops brought peace to Lebanon, Grenada or Vietnam", in an interview with *The Dublin* magazine published yesterday.

Shia prisoners released

Israelis seize 100 in Lebanon village

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The Israelis released 40 Shia Muslim prisoners from the Ansar Camp in southern Lebanon yesterday. But at the same time they moved their troops into the south Lebanese village of Maarakah and reportedly arrested 100 people after the killing of an Israeli soldier.

The release of Ansar prisoners was deliberately set to coincide with the exchange of Syrian and Israeli prisoners on the Golan Heights. A further 20 men were freed in Lebanon by Israel's surrogate "South Lebanon Army" militia.

But the apparent attempt to placate Lebanon's Shia Muslim community was offset by the events at Maarakah.

The Israeli military governor of Nabatieh, who uses the *Nom-de-Guerre* of "Abu Yusef", had earlier announced to local reporters that "on the occasion of the blessed *Fitr* (marking the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan) and as a result of appeals from the Shia sect, we have decided to release 40 people from the Ansar prison."

Not long afterwards an Israeli military convoy approached Maarakah, six miles East of Tyre and one mile inside the United Nations area of operations, cordoning off the village and preventing UN troops from entering.

Reports from the area said that Israeli bulldozers smashed

Cleared gunman faces retrial

Portugal's Supreme Court on Wednesday annulled a judgment which cleared a self-confessed Palestinian gunman of killing a moderate PLO politician, Issam Sartawi, Lisbon judicial sources said (Reuters reports). The state had appealed against the judgment in an Albufeira court last January in which Muhammad Hussein Rashid, aged 23, was cleared of murder charges but sentenced to three years' jail for having a false passport.

down the houses of several villagers and that three residents were wounded by Israeli gunfire. More curiously, UN soldiers later permitted to enter the township were told by villagers that an American major in US Army uniform, wearing jungle boots but without a name tag, accompanied the Israelis into Maarakah and told questioners that he was "with the investigation".

The villagers told the UN that the Israelis detained 100 men and loaded them onto lorries with their hands tied behind their backs. The day before, an Israeli soldier had killed a mile from the village.



Going home: American prisoners applauding Mr Jackson shortly before their release by Cuba. Some, however, may face charges on their return to the US.

Guatemala interrupts its daily violence for an election

Land where the assassins come cheap

From John Carlin Guatemala City

If you want a political opponent murdered, a troublesome relative disposed of, an old score brutally settled, they say that in Guatemala it is cheaply done. The word is that \$50 (£35) is the going rate to hire a professional assassin these days.

Others disagree and say it can cost up to \$200. While it is obviously difficult to find out the exact price, no one in Guatemala disputes the existence of a ready availability of professional killers.

The job is not considered particularly specialist. Supply is well up with demand.

To open the newspaper in Guatemala and find a list of names, sometimes with accompanying photographs of people murdered, their bodies dumped the night before, is as predictable as the horoscope a few pages on.

Monday's *Prensa Libre* daily for example, tells you quite down on page eight that three young men were found on the side of a road strangled, with bullets through the head. Two others had been shot several times through the head. Several "disappearances" were reported as well as a series of machete attacks on people in one of which a 22-year-old man had his right hand amputated.

Not very spectacular, more a routine day's violence, compared to other days when you read of 20 or 30 murders.

How many are the victims of political violence, how many personal vendettas, is not always clear. The figures the US Embassy provides for political killings - and they are eager to minimize the full horror in a country which is a Central American ally - stand at an average of 150 a month since General Oscar Mejia Victores came to power in a coup last August. "Disappearances" run at 30 a month.

In this climate of lawlessness - Guatemala's political violence is by far the worst in Latin

America - Guatemalans go to the polls on Sunday to elect a constituent assembly designed precisely to write the country's laws. Not surprisingly, Guatemala's 2.5 million registered voters do not place too much faith on the mechanisms of democracy, the letter of the law.

The party expected to pull in the biggest share of the votes is the National Liberation Movement (MLN), once described by its leader, Senor Mario Sandoval, as "the party of organized terror".

Senor Sandoval, the patriarch of the extreme right, is motivated by a strong personal desire for power. His ideology is "anti-communist". His one policy is

to launch an anti-communist crusade.

Senor Sandoval has explained that he would carry out his purge of communists with great humanity. He plans to inform the bereaved relatives, he says beatifically, where their dead are so they can grieve in sight of the bodies and give them due Christian burial.

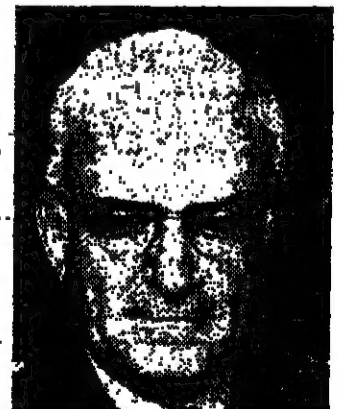
A clairvoyant, an astrologer, a stand-up comedian, a radio baseball commentator, and a television personality whose fame is founded on the outrageous flaunting of his homosexuality, are all putting themselves forward for a seat in the new assembly, their testimony to a generalized sense of the absurd.

Nato test flop blamed on Allies

Brussels (Reuters) - General Bernard Rogers (right), Nato's supreme commander in Europe, has protested to allied governments for failing to take seriously enough a secret exercise earlier this year on how to manage a crisis, Nato diplomatic and military sources said.

General Rogers gave a strong verbal warning to Nato's Council of Ambassadors in Brussels during the "Hilux 84" exercise in March, and has since sent a letter pointing to the military dangers of failing to take a timely decision to mobilize in the face of an imaginary Soviet invasion of Iran, threats against Yugoslavia and unusual troop movements in Eastern Europe.

The sources said he also complained that the low rank of officials delegated by most



countries, except West Germany, to represent their political and military leaders in the exercise had rendered it virtually meaningless.

The twice-yearly command-post exercise, involving governments and military leaders but not troops, is to test Nato's procedures for managing East-West crises.

Reagan tries carrot-and-stick tactics on Chernenko

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan's latest proposals for improving ties with the Soviet Union represent a classic carrot-and-stick approach to superpower diplomacy.

In a White House speech on Wednesday, Mr Reagan listed 16 American initiatives for widening contacts with the Soviet Union. They cover cultural, scientific, consular, economic and other non-nuclear issues.

However at the same time he attacked Moscow for invading Afghanistan, violating the Hel-

sinki accords and engaging in intensified repression of dissidents.

Although the United States wanted to broaden the areas of cooperation with the Soviet Union, he said, "when Soviet actions threaten the peace or violate a solemn agreement or trample on standards fundamental to the civilized world, we cannot and will not be silent."

The President's speech was intended to offer a number of carrots to different audiences - to critics in the United States

and West Europe, who blame him for the current fridity in US-Soviet relations, as well as to the Kremlin leaders who have been stepping up criticism of President Reagan since the Soviet leader, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, took office earlier this year.

The stick element in his speech is designed to assuage hardliners in his Administration and his many conservative supporters who fear that President Reagan, heading the advice of his reelection campaign tacticians, is becoming too conciliatory in his approaches to Moscow.

It must also be said that the tough anti-Soviet rhetoric contained in the second part of his statement is very much in keeping with the President's own views about the Soviet Union. Although Mr Reagan suggested at a press conference earlier this month that he was more amenable to the idea of a summit with Mr Chernenko, such a meeting is not considered likely before the November election. The President is not expected to press any harder for one.

The speech, and the way it was handled by the White House, underscores the difficulties an ideologically conservative and profoundly anti-Soviet Administration faces in trying to change the emphasis - but not the content - of its policy towards Moscow.

At the beginning of this week, the speech was billed by Reagan aides as a major conciliatory gesture, intended to continue the President's election year emphasis on peaceful relations.

It was to have been delivered in the Rose Garden of the White House, the scene of many other presidential campaign initiatives. However, the venue was changed to the East Room, where coverage was limited to a small pool of reporters. No advance text was issued and officials tried to play down the significance of the speech.

Alfonsin forced to call for extra sacrifices

Buenos Aires (NYT) - President Raul Alfonsin, in a turnaround from his insistence that Argentina has suffered enough, has called on his country's citizens for greater economic sacrifice. While he announced few specific measures, the imploring tone of his nationally televised speech appeared to pave the way for what his advisers say is movement inside the Government to compromise with the international community on austerity measures.

Argentina wants to reach an agreement with its creditors to help refinance its \$45,000m (£33,000m) foreign debt.

President Alfonsin said a new government economic and social policy would soon be detailed by Senor Bernardo Grinspun, the Economics Minister.

Senor Grinspun reported some progress in negotiations in the United States with the International Monetary Fund over the proposed austerity plan. An immediate deadline on Argentina's debt looms this weekend. Western Bankers here say a committee for the country's 320 creditor banks has refused to help Argentina pay off some \$450m in overdrafts interests that threat-

ens the country's creditor status if not paid by then. The banks are said to have demanded at first an implicit IMF agreement.

President Alfonsin did not imply that the Government was carrying in to the IMF, but said rather the sacrifices were needed to restructure the country's chaotic economy, which had an inflation rate of 568 per cent over the past year. "No one can deny the gravity of the crisis that we are going through," he said. "Closing your eyes and clenching your fists is not going to achieve anything."



President Alfonsin: compromise on austerity measures.

Soviet grain harvest 'far short of target'

Moscow - Western diplomats who follow Soviet agriculture closely say this year's harvest will be far short of target and Moscow will have to import more than 30 million tonnes of grain.

Sources said Moscow would harvest about 190 million tonnes of grain this year. This will be equivalent to last year's good harvest, thanks to favourable conditions in the northern Caucasus. But it is still below the official target of 240 million tonnes.

Indian police arrest 200

Delhi (Reuters) - Security forces arrested more than 200 people, including two leading Sikhs, in a crackdown on sectarian violence in the northern state of Punjab and the western city of Bombay. Police detained the senior president of the Sikh Akali Dal Party, Ugar Singh Shekawan, and Atma Singh, acting president of a group which manages Sikh temples in Punjab.

CIA shuffles top officials

Washington (AP) - The CIA, facing mounting congressional resistance to covert aid for Nicaragua rebels, is transferring four senior officials, including Mr John Stein, head of its clandestine operations and chief Capitol Hill lobbyist.

The changes, due to take effect on Sunday, were described by a CIA spokesman as a "routine rotation". Mr Stein, will become the agency's inspector-general. He will be replaced by Mr Clair George, now head of legislative liaison.

US puts cruise on submarines

Washington (AP) - The Defence Department has acknowledged that the Navy has begun arming its warships with nuclear cruise missiles. The Pentagon did not identify the types of ships, but sources said the missiles were on four submarines and were to be installed on surface ships.

Bored boy tried to rob bank

Copenhagen (AP) - A bored boy aged 14 broke the monotony of the school holiday by phoning a bank and threatening to blow it up unless 1.5m kroner (\$150,000) was delivered to him, the police said.

The police detained the boy near the delivery point. He confessed and was put in the care of welfare officers.

Giant icebreaker

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union is building an atomic-powered icebreaker which can carry 74 containers barges to ease the problems of supplying isolated communities of northern Siberia, Tass said.

Mafia swoop

Cantanzaro, Italy (Reuters) - The police have arrested 51 people and are searching for 47 others in a big operation against the Mafia in northern Calabria.

Saudi amnesty

At least seven of the 27 British citizens detained in Saudi Arabia are expected to be released under a Ramadan amnesty, according to the Foreign Office in London.

Wall crumbling

Peking (Reuters) - The Great Wall of China, is falling down, the *Peking Evening News* reports. Only 16 per cent of the best preserved section of wall, north of Peking remains intact.

Marchais continues as Communist leader despite election disaster

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Appearing for the first time in public since the severe setback suffered by the French Communist Party in the European elections, M Georges Marchais insisted yesterday that there was no question at present of his departure from the leadership of the party, or of the Party's departure from the Government.

There was widespread speculation after the elections, which saw the Communist share of the vote fall from 15 per cent to 11 per cent, that the party would seek to rid itself of the man who presided over the party's most dramatic decline in its history.

M Marchais said on television that the subject of his continued leadership had not even come up at the meeting of the Central Committee, whose two-day post-election election results ended on Wednesday.

A report by M Claude Poperen, which was discussed by the committee, giving the politbureau's "first thoughts" on the same subject, denounced the "base-fillet" campaign against M Marchais, and emphasized the collective nature of all important decisions taken in the party's name, thereby appearing to exonerate M Marchais of direct personal responsibility for the defeat at the polls.

That does not mean that M



M Marchais: resignation not discussed

Marchais will not ultimately be replaced, unprecedented though such a move would be. There is considerable criticism within the party of his style of leadership and public image.

The subject could be brought up again at the party's next congress from February 6-10 next year. The normal three years after the last one.

The report lays the blame for the latest resounding defeat suffered by the left squarely at the Government's feet. Communist and Socialist supporters had abstained in record num-

bers because the Government had failed to keep the promises it made when it came to power in 1981, particularly in reducing unemployment and increasing workers' real earnings, it said.

Some commentators see the report as a further indication of the Communist's imminent departure from the Government. Others have pointed out that the report was not simply rubber-stamped by the Central Committee, as would normally be expected, but was simply "discussed". The committee then produced its own final resolution which modified in some important ways the politbureau's analysis.

The committee accepted, for example, that the main reason for the high abstention rate was the Government's failure to keep its promises. It nevertheless believed there were "more general reasons" for the party's decline, which had also been responsible for the party's electoral setback in 1981, and which were linked to its failure to adapt sufficiently to the profound changes in French society. In other words, the party itself was partly to blame.

The committee reaffirmed the party's determination to continue to participate in government. M Marchais said that the Communists "have no intention of leaving a boat which is in difficulties".

Judge defers release of accused priests

From Keith Dalton, Manila

Courtroom cheers and tears greeted a new government-supported motion yesterday to dismiss multiple murder charges against two foreign priests and six church workers. But the presiding judge deferred a decision until next week and the accused went back to jail.

Judge Emilio Legaspi told a packed courtroom in the central city of Bacolod that he needed time to "intelligently deliberate" on the motion, though he added: "this may be our last meeting."

The defence lawyers' motion to dismiss the case was backed by the chief prosecutor after an out-of-court agreement on Wednesday that the eight accused could go free if Father Brian Gore from Australia and Father Niall O'Brien of Ireland left the country within 30 days.

The lay workers would be given six months of "protective custody" under the court, church and military.

The two priests and six lay leaders are accused of the 1982 ambush killing of a town mayor and his four aides. Charges against a Filipino priest, Father Vicente Deaguan, were dropped last month.

The agreement reached in the presence of the Justice Minister has the full support of President Marcos, who last month said he wanted the controversial case "done with".



Free soon? Father Niall O'Brien and Father Brian Gore confer in court.

after the priests rejected his offer of a presidential pardon. They complained that this implied guilt and insisted instead on the outright dismissal of the case.

"I need a little time, so that before the eyes of the world it will not appear that the judiciary of the Philippines is just a mere rubber stamp. I am doing this to protect the name and the image of the judiciary", he said.

After congratulating the defence lawyers, the chief prosecutor, Mr Lindy Diola, apologized to the accused.

"I am very sorry for the inconvenience that has been done to you. There was nothing personal", he said, wiping tears from his eyes. Supporters of the priests and lay workers cheered and clapped as Mr Diola embraced the lawyers and the accused.

The trial began on February

Tamils in Britain deny aiding rebels

Bomb kills maid in Colombo hotel

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

Security forces cordoned off the fashionable five-star hotel Lanka Oberoi in Colombo yesterday afternoon after a bomb exploded, killing a maid and injuring two male employees.

The woman died after a mysterious object which she picked up on the eighth floor exploded.

● **APPEAL TO THATCHER:** The Eelam Solidarity Campaign, representing Tamils in Britain, has written to Mrs Thatcher denying that they have been giving aid to terrorists in Sri Lanka (Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent, writes).

The charge was made by President Jayewardene in London this week, shortly before a meeting with the Prime Minister at which he was expected to raise the issue.

The letter "categorically re-

futes" the allegations but asserts that Tamil groups in Britain and elsewhere have been campaigning against the "gross violations of human rights".

The President should be told that a precondition for aid to Sri Lanka should be "just and fair treatment" of the Tamil minority on the island, the letter says.

President Jayewardene spent 45 minutes in talks before dinner at Downing Street, but neither Whitehall nor the Sri Lankans would give details. Today the President flies to Delhi for what have been described as crucial talks with Mrs Indira Gandhi on the violence in Sri Lanka.

Relations between Delhi and Colombo have been strained after accusations by Sri Lanka that Tamil militants have been trained at base camps in southern India.

Rumasa banks returning to private hands

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

A group of privately-owned banks, including Spain's top seven, will become the new owners of most of the banks of the confiscated Rumasa financial empire on July 31, according to a Cabinet decision.

The delivery of 17 of the remaining 18 Rumasa banks into private hands is in keeping with the Government's promise to "reprivatize" the huge collection of firms which were controlled by Senor Jose Maria Ruiz-Mateos until they were seized by decree on February 23, 1983.

The state will use the money raised to extend long-term credit at no interest to Rumasa companies which are in debt to the "reprivatized" banks.

Treurnicht proves by-election appeal

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's extreme right-wing Conservative Party led by Dr Andries Treurnicht has shown it is still a force to be reckoned with and capable of embarrassing the Government, in the two by-elections to the Transvaal Provincial Council held on Wednesday.

In the rural, mainly Afrikaans-speaking, Potgietersrus constituency, about 120 miles north east of Pretoria, the party's candidate, Mr Jan Homan, a retired school inspector, won comfortably with 7,515 votes against the 6,481 garnered by Mr Deon Swanepoel, the young businessman representing the ruling National Party.

Further south, in the middle-income Johannesburg suburb of Rosettenville, which is predomi-

minantly English-speaking, the NP's candidate, Mrs Sheila Cameron, fared better. She won 4,202 votes against 2,405 for the CP and 3,302 for the New Republic Party, whose policies scarcely differ from those of the Government.

The by-election results do not change the party strengths in the Provincial Council. Rosettenville was already in the hands of the NP, and Potgietersrus, though it was won by the NP at the last elections in 1981, switched to CP control after it was formed by a breakaway group within the governing party in 1982.

The cause of the breakaway was also the main issue in Wednesday's polls - the new constitution due to come into effect on September 3. This will give representation to the Indian and mixed-blood "Coloured" minorities in a segregated, three-chamber Parliament alongside whites, but will continue to exclude the 70 per cent or more of the population who are black.

The new system ensures that whites will still have the final say. The CP, nonetheless, sees it as a form of "creeping racial integration" that must eventually erode the basic principles of apartheid. The Government says the change is needed to give political rights to Indians and Coloureds. Blacks, Pretoria argues, have already been provided for in the tribal "homelands".

Potgietersrus is located in the one area of the country which returned a "no" vote in last November's all-white referendum on the new constitution. In a by-election last February the CP also won the Parliamentary seat of Soutpansburg to the north of Potgietersrus.

Wednesday's result thus largely confirmed Dr Treurnicht's known strength in the platteland (countryside) of central and northern Transvaal - his own Parliamentary seat of Waterberg is in the same area - and he has still to demonstrate that he has much of a following outside this region.

The CP's fairly strong showing in Rosettenville (albeit on a low 40 per cent turnout) is of interest, however, given that this is an urban, mainly English-speaking constituency which the party had never contested before. Previously, the Government's main opponents there have been the NRP and the staunchly anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party (PFP).



Dr Treurnicht: Voters confirm his strength.

Botha discusses customs fraud in Swaziland

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, held talks in Swaziland yesterday with the Swazi Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimpi Dlamini, and senior members of the Lingo (CAF), the supreme council of tribal elders which effectively runs the tiny kingdom (Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes).

The agenda was understood to have included the investigation of a fraud involving the non-payment of customs dues, which affects the Southern African customs union to which South Africa and Swaziland belong, and the recent dismissal of senior Swazi ministers who had close relations with Pretoria.

Hongkong wrangle over rebuff from Deng

From David Bonavia, Hongkong

Hongkong public figures and newspapers of different political hues are continuing a seething debate about who said what to whom during the recent visit of three members of the Executive Council to Peking, where they met Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's principal leader.

The controversy revolves round Mr Deng's remarks on the question of "confidence" in Hongkong - the legendary condition by which alone this territory is considered able to flourish.

Sir Sze-Yuen Chung, a member of the council, told a press conference that he and the two other members of his delegation in the Chinese capital last weekend had not been able to convince that there was "a crisis of confidence" menacing Hongkong.

Mr Xu Jiarun, Peking's unofficial ambassador in Hongkong in his capacity as head of the New China news agency, has tried to make soothing

noises about what was considered a hostile reception from Mr Deng.

However, local people are more inclined to side with Sir Sze-Yuen, who made tough and clear observations to Mr Deng on their mistrust of assurances about the future.

In Peking, meanwhile, sterner counsels prevailed, as British and Chinese negotiators met again to thrash out Hongkong's future as a "special administrative region" of China from 1997.

Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador and head of the negotiating team, is to visit London soon with Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, for talks with Mrs Thatcher about the present state of the negotiations. Despite teacup storms like the present one, progress is believed to be good, and an agreement fit to present to Parliament is thought likely to be ready by September. Leading article, page 13

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SPECTRUM

Reflections of a candid camera

Alfred Eisenstaedt, one of the founding fathers of photojournalism, is now 87 and still taking pictures. Michael Young caught up with him recently on a visit to London to talk about his latest photographic reportage, a portrait of Aberdeen, and found "Eisie's" mind as sharp as his pictures.



In 1953 Alfred Eisenstaedt (above, photographed during his visit to London this month) was in Havana for *Life* magazine to see Ernest Hemingway. When they met the writer was wearing only a pair of scanty shorts. At the sight of the diminutive Eisenstaedt - 5ft 3in in his socks - big Papa Hemingway puffed out his barrel chest and adopted his macho role. Eisenstaedt sensed he was in for a rough ride. Fearing the sensibilities of his editors back home he pleaded with the writer to slip into a shirt. "What?" Hemingway exploded pounding his chest, "me wear a shirt. Look at me. Marlene Dietrich, Sophie Loren, they all love this body. You photograph me as I am." Hemingway flexed his huge biceps.

Eisenstaedt was not impressed. He rolled up his own shirt sleeve and tightened his biceps into a hard knot. Taking out his pocket knife he opened it and held it high above his arm then let it fall, blade first. The knife hit the muscle and bounced off. It was an old party trick but one that produced the desired effect. Hemingway was agog. "Mary", he yelled to his wife, "come and see - we have a little Papa here." He roared with laughter and a rapport was immediately established. Hemingway slipped into a shirt. Thirty-one years later, now 87, Eisenstaedt's biceps are still as hard as knotted rope. "You feel them for yourself", he said at lunch in London recently. He was travelling from New York to Aberdeen, where he was to promote his latest photographic reportage, *Aberdeen: Portrait of a City*, the result of two weeks recording life on Aberdeen's streets last summer. "I could hardly believe that a city could be so grey", he said.

Eisenstaedt was born in West Prussia in 1898 and considered himself an amateur photographer until he joined the Associated Press in 1929. One of his early assignments was to photograph Thomas Mann receiving the Nobel prize for literature in Stockholm.

As with many of the founding fathers of photojournalism he developed a style of photography that was both candid and impressionistic. It captured the atmosphere of an event rather than every detail. Along with pioneers such as Andre Kertesz and Felix Man, he contributed, during the late 1920s and 1930s, to the new crop of illustrated German magazines which spawned publications such as *Weekly Illustrated* in this country and *Life* in America.

Often he had to photograph musicians and conductors at work. He would sit among the orchestra wearing white tie and tails looking so much like a performer himself that he was



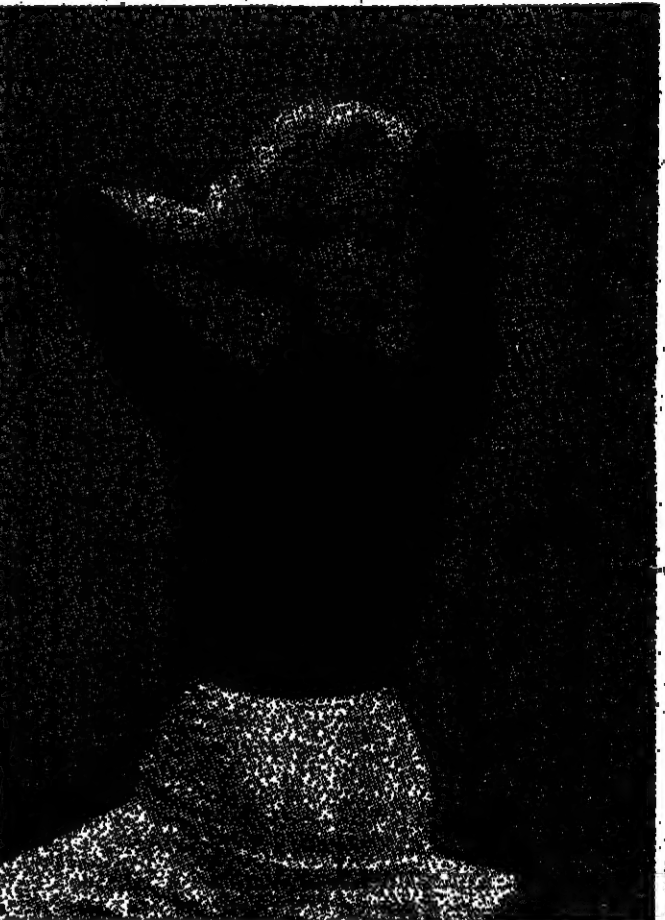
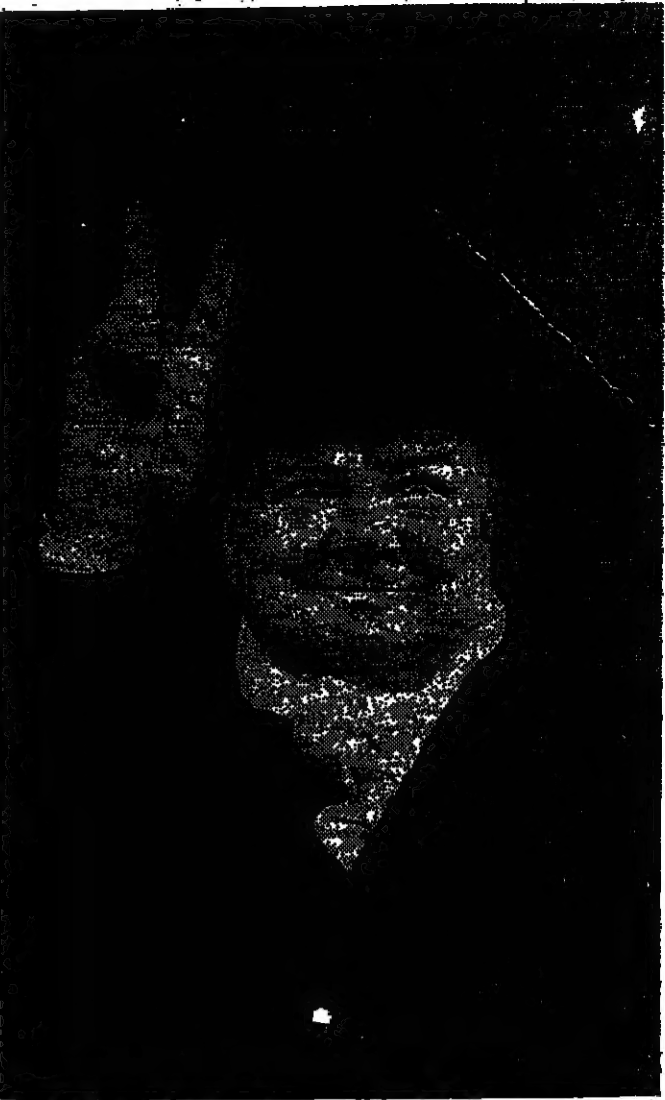
This waiter I photographed at a waiters' school at the Grand Hotel in St Moritz in 1931. The head waiter was teaching him how to serve drinks to British guests. I consider this one of my best pictures. I was shot on a glass plate. I focused on the chair and asked the waiter to pass by. This he did. When I have my camera with me I know no fear. I will ask anybody to do anything. Without the camera I am not so confident, a little shy even.

Marilyn Monroe I photographed in 1953. She was really quite small, with such a wonderful way of moving her body. I was photographing in black and white and colour, two different cameras, and, you know, for some reason I mixed up my exposures and very few frames came out. For years afterwards my friends kidded me that her beauty had turned my head. Maybe.

The lovely Marlene Dietrich I photographed two or three times. This picture was taken at a ball for the foreign Press in Berlin in 1928, just before I joined the *Atlantic* and *Pacific* which became *Associated Press*. It was the year that her acting in the film *The Blue Angel* had earned her a Hollywood contract. She was outrageously dressed in tails and white tie. But she had great presence and could get away with it. I stopped her and asked her to pose. This is the result.

2,500 assignments for the magazine and have a further 90 cover pictures, from all over the world. He is still fit and well - although a recent operation has slowed him down - and tanned, with grey wiry hair flaring from his temples. His hands are almost square, their backs crumpled with dark veins. His memory, he says, never fails him and indeed as we talked the

I was with Churchill in Liverpool for several days when he was campaigning in 1961. I was standing in front of him taking my pictures when he fell asleep. The band had begun to play the national anthem and Churchill's son, Randolph, tapped the old man on the shoulder. Immediately Churchill's arm snapped up into the famous salute. It was very funny.



names of those he has photographed flowed from his tongue with astonishing ease. Just occasionally he would hesitate and clamp together hard his lips as he sought a precise date or location. More than any other photographer, Eisenstaedt had become identified with the Leica camera, so much so that when Leica made their 1,000,001st camera they presented it to him. There is an apocryphal story that Leica offered to make the camera in gold for him. Legend has it the Eisenstaedt refused the offer preferring instead a model that actually worked.

Before the invention of the Leica in the 1930s, Eisenstaedt used an Ermanox 5x4 camera which, even though relatively small, used glass plates held in steel cassettes. The cassettes were so heavy that he had to strengthen the linings of his pockets. For Eisenstaedt the speed and agility which the Leica offered allowed him to work in such a way that actually taking pictures became a reflex action. "The camera short-circuited my brain and I could literally think through my eye and fingers."

During his career he has photographed more famous people than any other photographer this century. Has he ever been intimidated by the famous? "No", he said. "In 1938, Wilson Hicks was the picture editor of *Life* and he was going to send me to Hollywood. The most important thing, he said, is not to be in awe of anyone. Remember you are a king in your own profession. I have never forgotten those words. They made me feel important but not conceited." A smile lit Eisie's face and the guttural voice faltered for a moment. "But, you know, of all those I have photographed there is no doubt that Hemingway gave me the toughest time."

Does he have any favourite photographs? "Some seem to be remembered more than others", he said, and then listed a few. Hemingway was not among them. Four of those he mentioned we reproduce here with Eisenstaedt's own words as captions.

Aberdeen: Portrait of a City, is at the Aberdeen Art Gallery until July 7, when it transfers to Edinburgh for the Festival and then London. A book of the photographs is published by Mainstream, price £6.95.

VJ Day. This picture will be my epitaph and I don't mind that so much. It is my most famous photograph and perhaps the only one that I will be remembered by. *VJ Day* in Times Square, New York, 15 August, 1945. This sailor was so happy that the war had ended, he was grabbing every woman in sight and kissing them, young and old, it didn't matter. I was running ahead of him then suddenly there was this flash of white, the girl. I turned, he grabbed her and kissed her, smack on the lips. This is the picture I made. It pleases me so much. If the girl had been wearing a dark suit the picture would be nothing.

Tomorrow
START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



Portfolio
The first £20,000 weekly prize
● Hat-trick Wimbledon, Henley and the Lords Test
● Family money: Battling with landlords over service charges
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Somebody told me the other day that it is now two years since old Kensington Town Hall was half-demolished at dead of night by the council. It has half-stood exactly the same way ever since, like a big white fish that the fishmonger started to gut and fillet before being called to the phone. Two years is a long time to be on the phone, though, and the tourists and boutique-goers who surge into Kensington High Street on a Saturday must blink at this once-solid building in a prime position now showing its insides to the street.

This same some one who told me about the second anniversary said, after a short pause: "You know, I think I've got quite used to it the way it is."

I knew what he meant. We British are quite good at getting used to the way things are, and whether you call it tolerance or maddening inertia depends on where you're standing. There are still to this day in London open spaces, usually with the yellow NCP flag flying, which

never noticed. Protocol in Germany at that time was very important. "Everybody was so formal", he said. "When I actually started there was nobody doing this sort of photography. The studio photographers didn't like it. They thought photojournalists were a bunch of amateurs."

"I didn't know much about photography in those days. It was a sort of adventure and I was always a little surprised when my pictures came out. Often I would be processing in hotel rooms."

The rise of Nazism drove Eisie, as he later became known, to America in 1935 where he became one of the four founding father photographers with *Life*. His picture of a cadet at West Point was on *Life's* second cover. Over the following years he was to photograph more than

moreover... **Miles Kingston**
course. The country is littered with incomplete castles and monasteries, priories and forts, which are carefully looked after, like jigsaw puzzles we cannot bear to throw away even though most of the pieces are missing. I remember reading a book published in the late 1940s about London churches in the blitz, in which the author actually said that some churches, after being bombed by the Germans, acquired a grandeur and monumental quality as ruins which they had never had as churches. Which presumably is why the British, at one stage in their history, took to building ready-ruined follies in their stately grounds. And now, after two years, comes a rumour that the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has finally found a buyer for the ruined relics of the town hall. Or, in the headlines of our local news-sheet *The Hill*, "The Hammer Falls on the

Old Town Hall". There is something suitably elegiac about the headline, no doubt deliberately reminiscent of Tennyson's "The splendour falls on castle walls", though Elfrand is a slightly different neck of the woods from Tory country.

The hammer falls on the old town hall and the little left of the second storey
The council takes the fortune it makes - How glad we are we voted Tory

Always assuming, of course, that there isn't a sudden upsurge of popular feeling that demands the retention of the ruined old town hall exactly as it is... local landmark... historic example... much-loved folly... Unlikely, but what poetic justice it would be if the council who smashed down the town hall when no one was looking, in order to force the site to be developed, found themselves forced to preserve it just the way they had half-left it.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 380)

ACROSS	1 Subordinate state (6)	13 Religious (3)	20 In operation (5)
2 Ferry (6)	14 Algarve capital (4)	15 Printer's dagger (7)	21 Worthless matter (5)
3 One (5)	16 Grandfather (8)	16 Bobsleigh course (3)	22 Lorgnette (4)
4 Apollo oracle site (6)	17 Whims (6)	17 Artists' groups (7)	23 Strong cotton fabric (5)
5 Classification (6)	18 Porcico (8)	18 Protected (7)	
6 Grandfather (8)	19 Porcico (8)		
7 Regulate (6)	20 Window shelf (4)		
8 Whims (6)	21 Kept man (6)		
9 Porcico (8)	22 Forceful flow (6)		
10 Window shelf (4)	23 Roman sun god (3)		
11 Kept man (6)	24 Edge along (6)		
12 Forceful flow (6)			
DOWN	25 Sphere of activity (5)		
1 Postulate (7)	26 Confinement (5,2)		
2 Confinement (5,2)	27 Papal court (5)		
3 Papal court (5)	28 Subdued (5)		
4 Subdued (5)	29 Cargo packing (7)		
5 Cargo packing (7)			

SOLUTION TO No 379
ACROSS: 8 Mount McKinley 9 Oak 10 Autograph 11 Timid
13 Ejector 16 Humidor 19 Eddied 22 Lorgnette 24 Bun
DOWN: 1 Impos 2 Bunkum 3 Stranded 4 Seythe 5 King 6 Phant
7 Cypher 12 IOU 14 Exorcism 15 One 16 Hollow 17 Market 18 Round
20 Ebbier 21 Donat 23 Neck

كتاب النخيل

FRIDAY PAGE

Advice for every woman

Each year more than 30,000 women are treated for thrush in special clinics alone. Probably hundreds of thousands are troubled by it at some point in their lives. While it is not dangerous, thrush can be stressful and depressing. The constant vaginal itching and soreness can make life intolerable. In a new book, *Thrush*, published yesterday, author Caroline Clayton says: "Second only to cystitis, thrush causes more misery to more women than any other minor illness." It has probably destroyed the sex lives of hundreds of women and men and wrecked as many relationships.

She argues that there is no reason why any woman should "put up with" thrush and provides a guide to self-help.

When thrush strikes, the first question most women and their partners ask is: is it sexually transmitted? The answer is no. Although thrush can be passed between partners it is not a sexually transmitted disease in the usual sense. Because the yeast which causes thrush, *Candida albicans*,

MEDICAL BRIEFING

found in the gut, vagina and other warm moist parts of the body, an infection can and does arise spontaneously. Thrush is not confined to sexually active adults; even babies and small children can get it below the nappy line and in their mouths.

Candida is latent in the vagina and kept in check because the local environment is acidic. This is the key to understanding thrush and how to combat it. The acidic conditions are maintained by bacteria known as lactobacilli which convert sugars in the vaginal secretions to lactic acid. If something kills the bacteria or changes the conditions thrush can take over.

Any number of things can do this: stress, the menopause, a poor diet, antibiotics, some forms of contraception. Changes which favour thrush can even occur during menstruation or if a partner's semen is too alkaline.

So what can be done? Any woman with a vaginal infection should be examined by a doctor so that the correct diagnosis can be made. Similarly any woman who suffers from recurrent thrush will need a thorough check to make sure there is

no serious physical cause. But as Caroline Clayton points out a woman can do a lot to help herself by getting to know about her body.

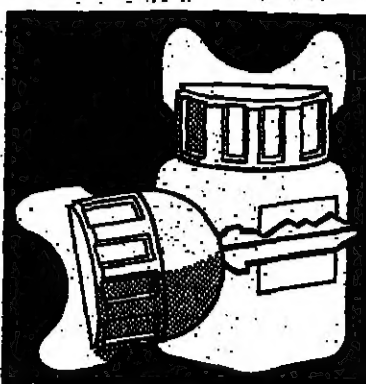
First, even if your doctor does prescribe pills or creams of pessaries to clear the candida most women soon get to know which drug suits them best so should not be afraid to say if one does not work and ask for an alternative.

Try to pinpoint what brings on an attack and avoid them. It is to avoid the thrush/cystitis you may also need some anti-thrush therapy to prevent the thrush taking over once the urinary infection clears.

If an attack does recur home remedies can help. Caroline's list includes everything from garlic to cottage cheese pessaries, which she claims are easy to use. Solutions of herbs, "live" yogurt, vinegar or lemon or even a garlic clove put into the vagina (using cotton wool or a contraceptive cap or diaphragm) will help restore the vagina's delicate acid balance she argues. Women have used them for centuries.

She says: "While they may not do any good, they cannot make the problem worse. And all of them are worth a try."

Thrush, complete with its close of garlic for desperate sufferers is published by Sheldon Press at £6.95 hardback and £2.50 paperback.



Key that does a good turn

Simple tasks, such as unlocking a door, that require a little dexterity, become Herculean for arthritis sufferers. Another of those commonplace operations is opening drug containers.

Child-proof drug containers have often been arthritis-proof too. A few years ago a bottle cap was developed by the Canine company which made life easier for thousands of people with a weak grip. The cap is wing-shaped so that the whole

strength of the hand can be used to open the bottle.

The cap design has now been taken one step further and adapted into a key-holder.

Twenty common makes of key can be fitted to the device and should make unlocking doors less of a struggle. The key-holders are being made available through family doctors from Canine Ltd, Wembley Park, Middlesex.

Chlamydia costs peace to diagnose and treat yet it was last likely to be identified.

Chlamydia costs peace to diagnose and treat yet it was last likely to be identified.

Hidden threat

Next week the biotechnology research company Boots-Celltech Diagnostics will launch a quick, cheap, and simple test for the commonest, but probably least known, sexually transmitted disease - chlamydia.

The test is a step forward but it will not solve the real problem. Unless a DHSS initiative or public pressure forces health authorities to recognise chlamydia testing as a priority thousands of women who need the test simply will not get it.

Dr Tim Moss, consultant phy-

sician to Doncaster Royal Infirmary, said chlamydia was epidemic in some areas; yet two thirds of infections in women go undiagnosed. In men infection is more obvious.

It can be devastating: chlamydia causes severe inflammation of the cervix, or neck of the womb, and in 40 per cent of sufferers it will cause breakthrough bleeding and bleeding after sex. In one in ten the infection spreads to the uterus and fallopian tubes causing permanent infertility. If a woman has chlamydia when she is pregnant her baby may be born with severe eye disease and may even develop pneumonia. One child had already died, and Dr Moss who predicts more deaths.

Chlamydia costs peace to diagnose and treat yet it was last likely to be identified.

Breathing life

Asthma is a common condition and usually well controlled, but every year around 1,500 people in this country die from asthma.

Two years ago the British Thoracic Association published a survey of 90 deaths from asthma which occurred in 1979 in the West Midlands and Mersey health regions. The conclusions were

Hens who came out of their shells

How being given a free range changed four battery chickens

My family and I are quite definitely "hen people". We have become expert at interpreting hen personality and behaviour, and I am pecking at the idea of writing a monograph on the psychology of these most interesting birds.

We were not, however, familiar with the term "yearling hens", which we came across in the livestock advertisement column of *The Cambrian News* when looking to add to our stock of four bantams and a psychotic cockerel.

I ventured the opinion that yearling hens could not be up to much since they were priced at only 80p each but my wife was determined to see for herself.

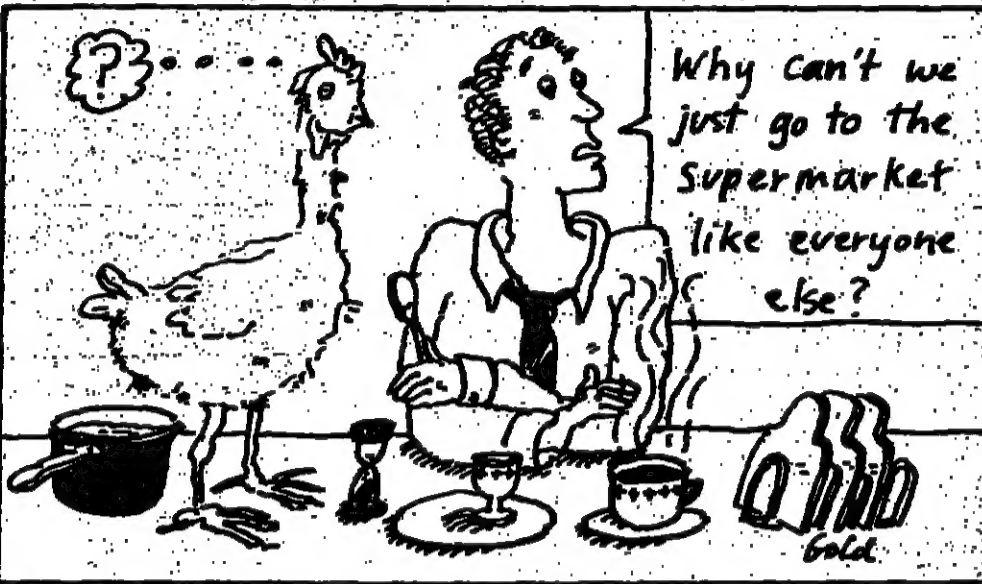
"They looked so pathetic", she said when she returned late on the afternoon with four yearling hens trussed up with string in the car boot. Indeed they did. They were battery hens, dull-eyed, and almost featureless, their skins bright red, particularly at the egg-dispensing end, which had the appearance of being swollen and inflamed.

With a sob in her voice, my wife explained that they had been confined to tiny boxes in vast, barren, blocks under permanent artificial lighting and at controlled temperature. Their only activity, apart from egg-laying, had been to incline their heads slightly forward to eat their highly concentrated meal.

When I untied them and, with some distaste, carried them into a newly cleaned hen house, they simply rolled on to their sides and lay there unable to stand up.

"They look as if they've just been released from Belsen", I said grimly.

I doubted that the poor creatures would survive the



night and even if they did I felt it would be a kindness to act as the Grim Reaper's agent and prepare them for the freezer.

If exposure to cool fresh air did not kill them, they would probably starve to death because they were unable to deal with the cold and layers pecked with what I anticipated to feed them.

My wife, however, was optimistic. The following morning the hens were not only still alive but also on their feet.

There followed a debate on what the point was of keeping "the Belsen ladies". Their previous owner had obviously got rid of them because they had stopped regular laying and with pellets at a minimum of £5 a bag they would prove to be expensive pets.

This argument was dismissed. My wife and children were confident that with proper care the hens would lay again.

I looked myself in the henhouse and began to instruct the Belsen ladies in their new way of life.

By the third day, the birds were walking about the house quite normally, eating heartily and no longer cowering in a corner when someone entered.

And that evening there was a reward of one egg. The household was *en fete* (that is, our household, not the hens').

This early success was not maintained, though. There were no more eggs for a week and when two eggs did appear later they had no shells.

"I think they need to come outside now", my wife said at the end of the third week.

So the whole family was recruited for the task of building a rehabilitation centre. A derelict henhouse was put to rights and cleaned; a large area of grass was enclosed by chickenwire and a gate constructed to allow human access so that the expected eggs could be collected; finally, in a moving ceremony, my seven-year-old son conveyed the Belsen ladies to their new abode.

The sight of grass and open space was clearly a shock. They wandered aimlessly for a time, peering through the netting and pecking suspiciously at the strange green stuff beneath their feet.

The filling of their feeding trough calmed them somewhat, but they showed no inclination to enter their smart new house.

From: Mrs J. M. Hammond, Yealm Lodge, Yeadington, S. Devon.

I have been following the great food debate in your columns with avid interest and would like to add this personal protest against smoking years ago because it was bad for my health and my pocket. I have now given up drinking for medical reasons. My sex life is severely restricted because my husband is away from home most of the time, and with four sons under the age of six, I don't have the energy for extra-curricular activities. If I now give up much of the food I enjoy, I might as well go and live down under a passing truck.

From: Professor John Yudkin, Wellington Court, Wellington Road, London NW8.

Nutritionists lead a hazardous life. Geoffrey Cannon's articles illustrate two of the major hazards, one in their relation to the public, and the other in their relation to the food industry.

Like workers in any other science, nutritionists do not yet know all the answers, else why would they so busily be carrying out research? But the answer to the public's questions about what is a healthy diet cannot wait until knowledge is complete, so the nutritionists have to advise on the basis of what is known together with reasonable extrapolation into what is still unknown. Thus, different nutritionists may well come to different conclusions about what is a healthy diet. Most particularly, they will differ in the degree to which they are prepared to express their conclusions with conviction, and this poses a special danger if some are tempted to espouse and hypothesis before it has been proved.

Cannon's articles contain many dogmatic statements derived from such extrapolations, including the suggested role of dietary fat in causing heart disease and breast cancer, and of lack of dietary fibre in causing appendicitis, hiatus hernia and cancer of the breast.

Many nutritionists doubt the validity of these hypotheses, and think it very likely that they will be abandoned. How much faith then will the public retain in those nutritionists who have so forcefully promoted unproven hypotheses and mistaken health for profit?

Cannon also exposes the hazard of the nutritionist's relationship with the food industry. But his indictment of food manufacturers in general is unwarranted. There may be no saints among the food manufacturers, but neither are they all sinners. Moreover, it is a slur on the integrity of many nutritionists to imply that those who advise food manufacturers are inevitably tainted because they help them in nefarious activities in undermining the health of the community. But what does Geoffrey Cannon want? He complains that the food industry is insufficiently concerned about the nutritional qualities of their products. How can he then complain when a food manufacturer approaches a nutritionist, and the nutritionist agrees to give his advice?

From: Mr R. Walker, Ashington Rectory, Fulborough, West Sussex.

It was interesting to read your articles but it was disappointing that only part of the problem relating to food and disease was mentioned. There was no mention of the so-called "junk" foods, many of the substances of which are thought to be carcinogenic, not of the supposedly wholesome foods like fruit, vegetables, grains etc. that have been sprayed with insecticides, to say nothing of the fact that many seeds are coated with an organic mercury preparation. As workers with a history of renal disease and diseases of the central and peripheral nervous system, my preoccupation with avoiding my organic mercury compounds, one cannot wonder what effect these may have on the consumer.

Perhaps the National Advisory Committee on Nutrition Education could extend its work

to cover this field and then make recommendations to the Government.

A comprehensive preventive medicine programme could then be implemented, thus relieving the National Health Service burden on future generations, rather than relying on revenue from food companies producing harmful products.

From: R. A. Wilson, Food Manufacturers' Federation, Catherine Street, London WC2.

Food manufacturers welcome open debate on questions affecting the national diet, provided this is conducted responsibly and with proper respect for the varying needs of individuals.

It is a pity therefore that Mr Geoffrey Cannon's recent series of features deals with such a serious subject in a sensationalized manner.

That apart, may I make three points:

1. The food industry works within a tight framework of statutes and regulations on such things as compositional standards, hygiene and labelling.
2. If the Government, advised by independent medical and nutrition experts, decides to change the law to adopt new nutritional guidelines, manufacturers will conform.
3. Whatever the pattern for the future is to be - and we would be the first to agree that nutritional thinking is going through a period of change - the industry will continue to provide consumers throughout the year with the widest possible variety of fresh and preserved foods at affordable prices.

From: Mrs Sally Brown, Red House Farm, Dennington, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Your recent articles confirm a conversation with my grandson who was complaining, as children are wont, but justifiably, I think, of the food in his High School - soggy chips with soggy fish or sausages. They now never have a joint of meat,

chicken or turkey, but are turning more and more to convenience "junk" food because they are quicker to prepare and therefore cheaper in woman-hours in the kitchen!

Do accountants rule our lives to such an extent that we are going to ruin our children's health in order to cut overheads?

It would surely be better to stop school meals altogether in favour of packed lunches which can be suitably prepared at home as Canadian children do in spite of their bitter winter climate?

It does seem ridiculous that those lavishly equipped school kitchens should not be used fully to produce good wholesome food made by their excellent cooks in favour of a tin-opener, a packet opener and a deep freezer.

Our children's health and education are the country's investment in the future. "Whatever a man soweth that also shall he reap".

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A Chelsea "Hans Sloane" plate, 1754-1755, 22 cm. Sold 14th February 1984 for £3,000. Enquiries: David Bant.

A gold and enamel pair cased quarter-repeating duplex, by Ralph Gout of London, 1793. Sold 23rd February 1984 for £3,950. Enquiries: Tina Miller.

A George II oval soup tureen and cover, marked Edward Wharfedale London 1752, 48 cm. Sold November 1983 for £9,020. Enquiries: Peter Waldron.

A large freewood figure of Charity, in the manner of Oloffe Gruppels, 17th century, height 193.5 cm. Sold 3rd April 1984 for £3,080. Enquiries: Elizabeth Wilson.

A William and Mary wooden doll, in her original clothes, c. 1690, 42.5 cm. Sold 29th May 1984 for £7,600. Enquiries: Bunny Campbell.

One of a pair of George III mahogany armchairs in the Gothic style, c. 1765. Sold 15th June 1984 for £7,600. Enquiries: Graham Child.

A neoclassical decorative complex with implements, probably French, c. 1770, 9 cm. Sold 15th March 1984 for £756. Enquiries: John Culine.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Banking on the palace

Convinced it has the support of the Queen and other members of the Royal Family, the GLC plans to petition the monarch directly if the House of Lords votes for the council's abolition. The GLC says it is "politically legitimate" to ask for the Queen's intercession through the Privy Council. It is said in County Hall that the Queen deprecates the manner, rather than the authority, of the proposed axing of the GLC, and rumours abound that she has personally lobbied certain members of the Lords to abstain in the vote. Observers say the pivotal contact has been Lord Forchester, the Queen's cousin, confidant, and racing manager. Forchester, formerly chairman of Hampshire County Council and the South-east Economic Planning Council, says that is not so.

The GLC first started to pin faith in the Queen as an ally against Mrs Thatcher in May, when she opened the Thames Barrier alongside Ken Livingstone and his mother, Ethel. In what the GLC describes as a "strong political speech", the Queen then applauded the council's "unswerving purpose".

The Duke of Kent will be meeting Fidel Castro's elder brother Ramon at the Royal Show in Warwickshire on Tuesday. As director of Havana's Cattle Breeding Genetics Centre, he wants to talk bulls.

Queen's rouble

Part-time spies from the Territorial Army's intelligence and security group may need some extra training. They recently spotted a man at a recruitment exhibition outside the Royal Exchange in London, taking photographs of a T.A. poster that asked in Russian: "Do you speak Russian? Our group needs you." Far from finding his intense interest suspicious, a khaki-clad female approached and said: "I see you're interested. Would you like to join?" Refusing to take a polite no for an answer, she thrust into his hand a leaflet describing how to enrol. The would-be spy has been making great play of the story. He is Albert Pina, special correspondent of Russia's *New Times* magazine.

It is a year since Selous Street in Camden Town was renamed Mandela Street, the council linking it, erroneously, with the Rhodesian pioneer who gave his name to Ian Smith's Selous Scouts. Strange, then, that Selous Street still appears on the letterheads of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, which has its headquarters at number 13.

Barricads

Labour's national leaders have been careful to distance themselves from the miners' picket-line violence. At the grass roots they are less fussy. In a South Yorkshire County Council debate, air chairman Jack Brown boldly said he condoned it. Fellow councillor Mick Porter, a miner, declared: "When we get Thatcher down we are going to kick her till she squeals like a stuck pig."

Barry Fantoni

In our day we were told to wait. Alas, Anstruther, I'm still waiting.

Buttoned up?

Lady Shirley Porter, true-blue leader of Westminster City Council, appears to have been rumbled by her own planning officers. Asked in council on June 11 if she had planning permission to use 25 Savile Row as an office for her new company, Efficiency in Local Government Ltd, she refused to answer "such a ridiculous question". Two days later, planning officers visited the address, a Burlington Shirt shop, and decreed that she would indeed need change-of-use permission. Her application was due to be heard last night. If approved, an opposition councillor observed, it will have been dealt with in a record 15 days, which "makes one wonder why Lady Porter felt it necessary to set up her company when there is so much efficiency in local government already."



PHS

Six Fontainebleau myths

by Malcolm Rifkind

The budget deal struck at Fontainebleau was a major success for Britain and a breakthrough for the Community. Critics are having difficulty swallowing that fact. Those who were accusing Mrs Thatcher of being too tough now say she was not tough enough. It is time to dispose of the myths.

Myth no 1: Britain would have been better off without any deal and refusing to allow the Community to raise more money.

Not so. Under this deal, we have released our refunds for 1983 (£440m), we have got a refund for 1984 (£600m) and we have secured 66 per cent relief for the future. We will be paying less than half what we would have had to pay if we had done as Mr Kinnock advised. That would have meant sticking to the 1 per cent VAT ceiling and paying our contribution at a rate rising to £1.5bn in 1985.

We have no Treaty-given right to refunds. The Labour government's negotiation did not prize a penny out of the Community. With this deal we will be better off financially, even with the increase in the Community's own resources. The ceiling on our own resources will rise to 1.4 per cent of VAT. We will continue to pay less than the existing 1 per cent ceiling because of our refunds, while others pay more. Our

actual payments will decline in real terms over the period 1983-88.

Myth no 2: This is only a temporary deal.

Not so. This agreement is linked to the new decision on the level of the Community's own resources. That decision cannot be changed unless we agree, and we shall not agree unless satisfactory budget arrangements remain in place.

Myth no 3: This agreement is worse than what was on offer in March.

Not so. What was on offer in March was a further series of year-by-year refunds followed by a system whose exact basis remained in dispute. It was nothing like as good as what we have now secured: a systematic settlement reflecting our relative prosperity and ensuring automatic payment of refunds.

Myth no 4: We are worse off under this deal than under the previous system of ad hoc payments.

Not so. Not only did those payments involve annual haggles both with other member states and with the European Parliament, but the amount of our refunds was decreasing. Until this week our 1983 refunds were blocked by France and Italy. Now our refunds are again on a rising trend. Nor will it be open to

member states to block our payments in any one year because our refunds will take the form of reducing our VAT contributions in the following year.

Myth no 5: We have got a deal by cutting out of the calculation our contribution to the Community in levies and duties.

Not so. What we have agreed covers the great bulk of our payments to the Community. The new method of calculation means simply that our levies and duties are counted as if they were paid at our VAT rate, ie just over 21 per cent of the Community budget. On 1983 figures the proportion of our total net contribution left out of account was £170m out of a total of £1,130m.

Myth no 6: By allowing the Community to raise more revenue we have lost our opportunity to cut agricultural spending.

Not so. In the last year of the last Labour government, agricultural spending took up 78 per cent of the Community budget. Now that figure is 65 per cent. For the first time, the Community has agreed that, as in each of the member states, revenue must determine expenditure, not the other way round.

Each year the Community will set

a ceiling on what it can spend with a separate ceiling for agriculture to ensure that the rate of growth of agricultural spending is less than that of overall spending. There is no way to go, but the mood of the Community has quite changed from the days when Britain was the lone voice in favour of a disciplined budget.

Germany is already the biggest contributor to the budget and will become an even bigger contributor. France is now becoming a net contributor for the first time. Our combined efforts will ensure that budget discipline becomes a reality. Finance ministers are committed to adopting measures which will guarantee the application of the principles I have described. We shall be able to satisfy ourselves that those measures have been adopted before an increase in Community revenue goes through.

On a broad analysis of our economic interests, this deal is good for Britain. But there is more to it than that. We have resolved an issue that has vexed our relations with other Community countries since we joined. We must now join with them in concentrating on major collaborative efforts to build our economies and create new jobs. We have at last put the Community's finances on a sound basis.

The author is Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Yesterday's reversal of the ban on the Arab-Jewish Peace List highlights the importance of the Arab vote in next month's Israeli election. Christopher Walker reports

Could the West Bank factor bulldoze Shamir?

Nazareth. There could be no better reminder of the complexities of next month's Israeli general election than a drive through the Galilee Hills into Nazareth, the biblical Arab town with its Muslim majority and communist-Arab mayor. There one is faced by a battery of posters (in Arabic) exhorting voters to support Yahad, the new centre party led by the swashbuckling hero of many Israeli battles against the Arabs, former defence minister Ezer Weizman.

To reinforce his efforts to woo the Arab vote, the publicity-conscious Yahad (Together) Party has placed a popular Arab lawyer, Mohammed Massawa, in sixth position on its list, a respectable lot which might just squeeze him into parliament if the Weizman group can substantially improve its present standing.

To some outsiders, the fact that Israel's 710,000 Arabs have the vote at all, or bother to exercise it — as 68 per cent of those eligible did at the 1981 election — might come as a surprise. So would the sight of the occasional flowing Arab robe among the open the necked shirts on the benches of Knesset, where Arabic is the only language into which the official report of the proceedings is translated from Hebrew.

The growing importance of the Arab vote was underscored at the outset of the campaign by Yitzhak Rabin, the respected former Labour prime minister and shadow defence spokesman, who pointed out that the 1981 election was fought on a single list, they could secure 12 of the Knesset's 120 seats — probably enough under the present uneasy functioning of the Israeli political system to give them the balance of power between the two main blocks, Labour and Likud, led by Yitzhak Shamir.

Not long ago, in the wake of the St James's Square siege, I pointed out, with no great conviction that I was revealing astounding truths hitherto quite unsuspected, that Colonel Gaddafi is obviously raving mad, and that the same is true of an appalling large number of national leaders present or recently past, including Idi Amin, Emperor Bokassa, Ayatollah Khomeini and Mao Tse-tung. I went on to discuss the implications of this alarming state of affairs, and to suggest one or two things that the rest of us might do about it.

A little later, there was a letter in this paper from a professor of psychiatry who was surely the original source of the simple-minded Dr Heinz Kiosk (Chief Psychiatric Adviser to the Leek and String Bean Marketing Board and much given to crying "We are all guilty"). The prof took exception to my calling these lunatics lunatics ("silly epithets"), because "There is no good evidence that any of these potentates are or ever were insane", and because "It is a dangerous mistake to assume that behaviour we do not like and have difficulty understanding is for that reason the product of madness", and because "calling them madmen is simply a rather childish way of cocking a snook at them, of asserting our superiority, and of excusing our expensive failure to understand or outwit them", and, most notably, because "they are the product of cultures we do not, and have never seriously tried to, understand".

Well, now. It is true that one man's madness is another's charming eccentricity, and "good evidence" that these potentates, as I insisted, are or were a marble or two short can be defined in an almost infinite number of ways: the professor is therefore entitled to say that the evidence so far available is not good enough. But that immediately prompts a question, at the answer to which I cannot even guess, which is: if the habit (practised, according to reliable reports, by Amin) of keeping a refrigerator stocked with bits of one's opponents lately deceased, no doubt to ward off night starvation, and the quaint custom (which



One of the most interesting developments in the present campaign is the absence of independent Arab lists. In 1981, there were five, all of which failed to secure the 1 per cent total of the national vote needed to win a seat. The lists were based largely on the clan system, which in the past has been one of the dominant factors in determining Arab voting patterns.

The main opposition Labour party, under the leadership of Mr Shimon Peres, has persuaded a number of clans not to put forward their own lists and hopes to make further inroads into the former predominance among Arab voters of Rakah, the Israeli communist party. Rakah remains heavily Moscow-oriented and its four parliamentary deputies make an incongruous vehicle for the Arab protest vote.

The change in Israeli Arab voting patterns began in 1981, when only 57 per cent of the Arab voters (about 60,000) voted for Rakah, compared with 50 per cent at the previous election in 1977, which swept

Menachem Begin's right-wing Likud into power for the first time. Labour did well out of the transformation, securing 29 per cent of the Arab vote in 1981, compared with only 11 per cent four years earlier.

If this trend continues, Labour will emerge as the dominant party among Arab voters, says political commentator Amnon Barzilai.

Israeli Arabs now form 17 per cent of the population inside the so-called green line (that is, excluding the occupied West Bank and Gaza and annexed East Jerusalem). Ranan Cohen, head of Labour's Arab department, has drawn up a document illustrating far-reaching changes in the structure of the Arab villages which have further weakened the dependence on the old clan framework. Seventy-six per cent of Arab breadwinners are now salaried, and a large number of them work outside their place of residence, although many young Arabs feel they are not getting all that is due to them from the state.

The struggle for the Arab vote

Bernard Levin

No, Dr Kiosk, I'm sane, superior and innocent

Bokassa was similarly given to) of murdering entire classrooms of schoolchildren, do not constitute good evidence of insanity, what would, in the good professor's judgment, constitute such evidence? Would he, for instance, also resist classifying as not quite all there that other modern African potentates who exercised the right to exterminate as many millions of people as they think fit in the name of an infallible ideology, or who (step forward Poi Pot, to be measured for a strait-jacket) mark their accession to power by burning every piece of printed or written matter in the country, from books and Buddhist scrolls to hospital record cards, preparatory to slaughtering roughly one-seventh of the population?

To these people I am superior; who is more stupid, and a great deal more wicked, than I actually am, and still assert my superiority over them. I shall go further, and risk being put away. These rabid dogs of our world, the professor would have us believe, are not rabid dogs at all, but "the product of cultures we do not understand" (let alone show the smallest respect for) cultures that produce such creatures and such actions.

But here, you see, I run two risks, not one. Not only am I plainly bughouse, I am no less obviously a fascist. It is bad enough, these days, when it is widely believed that anybody could play the fiddle like Yehudi Menuhin if it were not for the stupefying effect of capitalism, and indeed that nobody is more

intelligent than anybody else, to claim that some people are in some ways superior to some other what is inexcusable is to assert that in any circumstances whatever any white person is superior in any way at all to any person of any colour. When Amin was at the height of his murderous and insane career, there were happily few (though not none) to defend him; but there were very many to excuse him on the ground that British rule in Uganda had been just as bad — nay, far worse. Nobody, as I recall, said he was a bloody savage, let alone that whatever culture produced him was not a culture at all but an abominable barbarism.

We are not all guilty. Oh, we are all guilty of something: baseness, meanness, cruelty, desert — none of us is free of sin. But we are not all guilty of genocide or even burglary, and it is about time the pestilence of total moral relativism was tackled, before it destroys us all.

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien, As, to be hated, needs but to be seen; Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

It is not comforting to realize that we are already two-thirds of the way through Pope's transfiguration: we have long since moved from enduring the mad dogs to playing them. Indeed, many have already gone all the way to the embrace. Mao and Castro have inspired hero-worship in countries like ours, and the Khmer Rouge itself had its western admirers even as its members were carpeting Cambodia with corpses.

But those who carpet any country with corpses are monsters and mad, and we ought not to shrink from saying so. "Evil be thou my Good!" was once a blasphemy; then it became no more than a paradox: soon it will be a perfectly reasonable comment. We might remember, though, that Milton put it in the mouth of Satan. Now there was a product of a culture we have never seriously tried to understand.

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David Watt

SOS — reaction stations

Will the miners' strike do more harm in the long run to the Conservatives or to Labour? It is a nice point. The normal, commonsense answer is that of course it is going to bust the People's Party wide open again; and indeed there are signs (especially from the direction of Tony Benn) that if the dispute is still running when the Labour Party conference meets at the beginning of October, Mr Kinnock's beautiful new card-house will be scattered to the four winds. Nevertheless my money is on Labour's rediscovered sense of self-preservation holding out for a bit longer than the autumn. In that case, Labour will doubtless continue to look thoroughly sheepish and ineffective, as it does now; but the Government may well suffer even more.

The reason has very little to do with the rights and wrongs of the strike itself. So far as that goes I should judge, from purely anecdotal evidence, that most people have some theoretical sympathy for the miners (though in strictly limited quantities), an instinctive dislike of the wretched Mr McGregor who comes over on television, rather misleadingly as it happens, as the caricature of an insensitive "American boss", and a deep distrust of Arthur Scargill, whom they regard as dangerous and power-hungry if not actually off his rocker. In other words, the British public doesn't like either side much and would be delighted, if that were possible, to let them all stew quietly away in their own juice.

Unfortunately, thanks to the media, it is not possible. The violence invades every sitting-room and demands a reaction. That reaction is naturally hostile but since people do not want to take sides in the dispute the hostility is diverted from the combatants to the referee, for it is he who is allowing the fight to proceed. "This is un-British," "it oughtn't to be allowed," "Someone ought to stop it," "Someone ought to do something." These are the commonest cries; and the "Someone" in question can, of course, be nobody but Mrs Thatcher.

The Prime Minister's determination not to be seen to intervene is understandable from a doctrinaire point of view; it may also, for the time being, be good politics — or at any rate the least expensive political line available. But still, the pressure that is now building up is significant and from the Government's point of view, menacing — not so much because it will force a sell-out to Mr Scargill (it won't) as because it threatens one of the main planks of the Thatcherite platform, namely the notion that government intervention in almost any field except security and law and order is at best a waste of effort, and at worst a dangerous delusion.

In fact, it is one of the most interesting sights in politics at present to watch this whole concept being eroded by a kind of glacier movement. On the left flank is the growing clamour of the public (and of Tory "wets" like Francis Pym) that the Government "do" something about the accumulating problems of the day, particularly unemployment. On the other wing is the Government itself, ably supported by a highly centralizing civil service, being drawn by events and by instincts of some of its members into more and more interventionism.

The most obvious has been the

whole assault on local government by removing one tier of it but anyone can see not only that it will in practice end by giving more control to central government (because the local boroughs will not be able to take on the load effectively) but also that a lot of the impetus behind the excision comes from the most autocratic and contemptuous of political motives.

The *Daily Mirror's* embarrassing disclosures about Downing Street's manipulation of British Rail's wage policy can (in spite of cries of "Shock, Horror") have come as no surprise whatever to the *Mirror*, the Labour Party or anyone else. All ministers are about as capable of keeping their hands off the affairs of supposedly autonomous nationalized industries as they are of offering to halve their own budgets. The truth is that politicians have few enough instruments for influencing events as it is, and naturally grab anything that comes to hand for that purpose. If they can do so legally (and sometimes even if they can't), never mind what the last election manifesto may have said.

If Mrs Thatcher can give herself a better chance of defeating Mr Scargill by settling with the miners (which is in her province), and the railwaymen (which, strictly speaking, is not) then she would be mad not to. By the same token, if Messrs Lawson and Jenkin want (a) to regain control of the money supply and (b) to meet the clamour of Conservative voters that rates bills are exorbitant and that "something must be done" about it, then they are not going to be restrained by readings from Edmund Burke or John Stuart Mill of blatant invasion of local government territory.

The question, of course, is whether it matters. The ordinary "consumer" expects, in his usual, muddled kind of way, to answer on a case-by-case basis without bothering too much about theory. People agree with the general proposition that there has been "too much government" — to that extent the middle ground has indeed been shifted in the last five years. They want lower taxes and fewer civil servants and for that reason I should imagine that a majority tolerates rate-capping and the abolition of the GLC even if it is achieved by, and ultimately enhances, the brute power of central government.

On the other hand they haven't the slightest objection to the Government settling railway pay, and an increasing number are beginning to be positively angry that the Government does not have a far more active approach to unemployment.

In other words, as I implied at the beginning, the tide may be turning against the idea of minimalist government — to which the cynical remark is that Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues have always preached "free markets" and practised something very different from the outset. There is some truth in this.

Nevertheless the propaganda has been successful, perhaps too successful, and the Government is beginning to face an awkward choice. On the one hand is the unpopularity, possibly quite serious, of resisting public demand in the name of paper consistency; on the other is the prospect of doing what a growing number of its own supporters expect and appearing to be untrue to itself.

Philip Howard

Hang on, McEnroe, I'll get you yet

This is the season of the year when I know that my backhand is going to swing as sweetly as Rosewall's; that the second service sliced across the body so that it becomes a vicious inswinger will raise dust in the corner of the service court every time; and that those high smashes will be swatted economically away from the middle of the racket rather than ricocheting around like a pellet of quicksilver in a nervous man's palm.

One of the troubles about having a mother who won a Wimbledon title (the better Doubles in 1922) is that one thinks that one ought to be able to do it oneself. And every year at this time I can see what I have been doing wrong and become convinced that fame and fortune and rows with umpires lie ahead for me.

It is too late for Wimbledon this year, damnit. But there are always Forest Hills, (or are they Forest Lawns?), except that they have moved to somewhere that sounds noisier and less pastoral.

Tennis is an annual triumph of fantasy over experience. I had an outing the other day to open the season. And as usual the backhand was like a cow kicking; the second service was very short, very soft and usually out; and the high smashes seldom made contact, not even with the wood. Apart from that, during the winter the forehead drive, heavily topspin and a killer, has developed a distressing ballooning tendency that takes it over the backnetting into the brambles every third shot.

In addition, one of the foursome (not I, I promise, but nephew Andrew) managed to break the head off the Dunlop Maxply with which Mama won Wimbledon more than 50 years ago, a treasured heirloom with which we were still beating the balls about. It was a notable shot in fact, of a violence to appeal Bill Tilden.

For sentiment we ought to get the head stitched back on, even if we have to give up using the racket. However, the little old shop at the Gray's Inn Road that boasts that it

strings and repairs rackets has just gone bust. I think that these nefarious metal rackets do not snap strings; or if they do, you chuck them away and send for a new racket. This is the age of instant obsolescence, even for tennis rackets.

All these defects are repairable, except perhaps Mama's decapitated racket. If I can just get to watch a bit of the tennis, I shall see how to do it by osmosis. There's nothing to it really. Just keep your eye on the ball until it hits the centre of the racket. Get your feet right, and your arms will take care of themselves. Go for the bold shots. Pounce in at the net like a tiger. Think what your next stroke is going to be as you move for this one. Skip like Mohammed Ali, sting like a bee. You can intimidate your opponent, destroy his confidence, upset his concentration, break up his game, and drive him into a blind rage simply by the way you keep score.

I know how to be a champ. I just need to watch a bit of Wimbledon, to pull it all together. As it happens, I have one of my mother's seats for the finals. But will I be there sucking in by sympathetic magic and propinquity the stuff of champions? Will I, Major Gem! (Tricky allusion to the pioneer of the game even older than Major Wingfield of blessed memory). No, I shall be in Stenoaks, presenting the prizes at the Open Day at Walthamstow Hall School of Girls.

This comes about partly because we have a moral duty to teach the young idea how to shoot, and partly on the theory, when asked so far in advance, that July 7 never comes. So it is back to the sources, chaps, notably "Bertie Changes His Mind", the only Wooster story from the pen of Jeeves when Bertie, in similar predicament, reaches for the heavily sliced story about Romano's in the Strand.

Perhaps, after the ugliness, the girls will give me a game of tennis. I dare say they are nearer my standard than the champs, at least until I get my game together next year.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WHERE SMALL PRINT MATTERS

During the past few weeks the Chinese leader Mr Deng Xiaoping has been giving vent to odd displays of irritation over the question of Hongkong. Last month he publicly criticized two of his colleagues in the Chinese leadership, describing their assertion that China would not send troops to Hongkong after 1997 as "absolute rubbish". In China, where leaders go to great lengths to conceal their differences, a remark of this sort is nothing less than extraordinary. Then last week Mr Deng agreed to meet a delegation from Hongkong, made up of three senior members of the colony's Executive Council - its highest policy-making body - only to treat them with an abruptness bordering on outright rudeness.

What is troubling Mr Deng? Can it be that he is not entirely happy with the way that the talks between Britain and China on the future of Hongkong are progressing? Though the talks continue to be described officially as "useful and constructive", there are grounds for thinking that British and Chinese officials are still some way from coming to terms. The two sides no longer disagree over the broad question of what will happen to Hongkong when the lease on most of its territory expires in 1997. As the Foreign Secretary made clear in Hongkong two months ago, Britain is ready to accede to China's two principal demands, subject to a satisfactory agreement on Hongkong's future. These demands are that Britain acknowledge China's claim to sovereignty over Hongkong, and that the British administration there comes to an end in 1997. What is now dividing the two negotiating teams is the precise form a Sino-British agreement on Hongkong should take.

As Sir Geoffrey Howe explained in Hongkong in April, Britain is looking for an agree-

ment that will incorporate detailed provisions for maintaining the status quo in Hongkong after 1997. These provisions would include assurances about the independence of the territory's legal system and about the maintenance of existing civil liberties, as well as measures designed to preserve its economic framework intact. China, on the other hand, has recently been making it clear that it wants an agreement confined largely to issues of principle - dealing, that is, with general questions like sovereignty and overall administrative control. Indeed, the head of the Chinese negotiating team, Mr Zhou Nan, gave an interview earlier this month in which he explicitly declared this to be China's aim.

To those not closely involved in Hongkong affairs, the question of whether or not a Sino-British agreement contains detailed assurances for the future may not seem particularly important. But in fact it is important - vitally important - for at least two reasons. In the first place, it is simply not enough for Chinese leaders to say that they are going to preserve Hongkong unchanged after 1997, and that the people of Hongkong should therefore be confident about the future. Even if they have the best possible intentions towards Hongkong, Chinese leaders are deeply imbued with the habit of political and economic intervention, and will almost certainly be tempted to meddle in Hongkong's affairs at one stage or another.

Besides, China's past record shows that in the unrestrained exercise of power the Chinese Communist Party has repeatedly violated its own promises, not to mention the country's laws and constitution - a fact that Mr Deng Xiaoping himself would readily admit. China has, on the other hand,

GAVIN ASTOR

The death of Lord Astor of Hever severs the link between that family and *The Times*, which lasted more than sixty years and has been of great and salutary importance to the newspaper.

Gavin Astor's father, Major J. J. Astor, later the first Lord Astor of Hever, rescued *The Times* from an uncertain fate after the death of Lord Northcliffe and from the capricious interference that had damaged the paper in the later years of Northcliffe's ownership. The rescue was effected by the combination of Astor's wealth and his conception of his responsibilities as chief proprietor with John Walter. The first need was to restore the reputation and authority of the paper by securing its editorial independence, free from day-to-day interference from proprietors or managers. This Astor did by recalling Geoffrey Dawson to the editorial chair and agreeing with him terms that came to be regarded as a model for an editor's constitutional powers. He saw his own role in the light of Bagehot's formulation of the rights of a constitutional monarch: to be informed, to encourage and to

warn; though with the effective power of appointment and dismissal.

Gavin Astor received almost all his father's holding in *The Times* Publishing Company in 1934 and became chairman of the company five years later. He shared his father's ideas about a proprietor's relations with his editor and his father's notion of trusteeship in the possession of such an important piece of public property. The problems which started to beset *The Times* in the 1960s were different from those which his father had coped with in the 1920s. Gavin Astor saw his primary responsibility as being to safeguard the economic future of the paper. But his freedom to act was limited by the authority his father still exercised. He was aware that *The Times* would be vulnerable to duty in the event of his death, and the changing conditions of newspaper production persuaded him that the paper stood in need of financial and technical resources exceeding anything he was able to supply himself.

The agreement with Lord Thomson of Fleet in 1966 put *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* together in a new com-

DANGER: KEEP IN

Only three miles from the USA heavily armed Soviet soldiers peer through binoculars towards the "main bulwark of imperialism". They are a unit of the elite KGB Border Guards based on Ratmanov Island off the Alaskan coast. Protecting the sixty-thousand kilometre border of the USSR is too sensitive a task to be entrusted to ordinary Soviet soldiers, since it requires a high degree of political awareness. The border guards are trained to stop spies and saboteurs slipping into the USSR - and to prevent Soviet citizens leaving.

Every year on the anniversary of their foundation they become front-page news: KGB generals proudly list the soldiers who have been awarded medals for their vigilance. Army General Vadim Matrosov, the commander of the 300,000 border troops, said in *Pravda* that "aggressive imperialist forces" had caused a deterioration in international relations; the CIA and other Nato espionage services were still attempting - unsuccessfully - to infiltrate their agents into the USSR.

The guardians of the border can rely on the leadership to keep them supplied with the latest weapons, helicopters and coastal craft. General Viktor Chebrikov, the KGB chief, is a

candidate member of the Politburo; but even more important, President Chernenko is himself a distinguished old boy of the corps. The media, as yet unable to unearth evidence that he was as great a war hero as Marshal Brezhnev, have discovered that during his national service "the head of the communist party and Soviet state was an active participant in the struggle against the country's enemies on the south-eastern borders in the 1930s".

He returned to the Khorog border post much later to commemorate this episode by planting a tree, and has sent the men now serving there "a small collection of books including both fiction and political literature". The main fighting at this time was to suppress the Muslim nationalists, now again the object of operations across the border in Afghanistan, but there is no evidence as yet that President Chernenko saw action himself.

There is a tendency common among western peace movements to denounce the internal repressions of the Soviet system while nonetheless arguing that the USSR's military expenditure is a direct result of Nato hostility. But for the Kremlin state security is indivisible. The borders which must be kept

Taking fresh look at Beveridge

From Mr Nicholas Hinton and others

Sir, The Government has now announced its timetable for the reviews of social security. Some organisations have already been approached to give oral evidence within the next few weeks, before the official deadline for written evidence.

Meanwhile, another review (of maternity provision) has been added to the agenda and it appears that additional issues may be considered by the Central Co-ordinating Unit after the deadline for published evidence has expired.

We believe that what the Secretary of State has called "the most substantial examination of the social security system since the Beveridge report" should give genuine opportunities for public involvement and review. We are therefore anxious that it should not be conducted in an over-hasty manner or with an ill-defined agenda.

We urge the Government to reconsider its timetable for public consultation and to produce a clear and definitive list of the real issues under consideration. We would also welcome an assurance that there will be further consultation on any proposals for change resulting from the reviews.

We look forward to a public statement of the Government's intentions.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON (Director, National Council for Voluntary Organisations),
FRAN BENNETT (Acting Director, Child Poverty Action Group),
SALLY GREENGROSS (Deputy Director, Age Concern),
ELIZABETH FILKIN (Director, National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux),
PHYLLIS FERGUSON (Director, Family Forum),
CHRIS POND (Director, Low Pay Unit),
JOHN COX (Director, The Spastics Society),
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
June 26.

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, The National Consumer Council called for a full-scale review of the social security system as long ago as 1977. Eighteen months ago, together with the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish consumer councils, we set in train our own review, which is nearing completion and which we hope to publish later this year.

We share the wish that voluntary organisations express that the reviews which the Secretary of State for Social Services has now set up should provide a real opportunity for public involvement and debate.

We believe that it is particularly important that the reviews should not approve the problems of the social security system in a piecemeal way, but should relate decisions about part of the system to a coherent plan for the system as a whole.

We shall want to propose such a plan ourselves. In the meantime, like the voluntary organisations, we hope that the Government will make clear its wish to allow all those with considered views to give due time to prepare them and to look at proposals for dealing with parts of the system in the light of the health of the whole.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MITCHELL, Director,
National Consumer Council,
18 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.
June 26.

Race in schools

From Mr Clifton Robinson

Sir, Your article (June 14) about Bradford headmaster Ray Honeyford gave the impression that he may be disciplined for referring to the disadvantaged position of white pupil minorities in schools - where over 80 per cent of the children were of Asian origin.

If that was all he said one would have no quarrel with him. One would enter a dialogue with him about the proper use of resources in his school so as to serve the needs of all children. And one would work towards developing in him a sympathetic understanding of the experiences of black pupils in similar circumstances elsewhere.

But that was not all. His contribution to this important debate has been marked, in our view, by inaccuracies and stereotypes. The complete field of education and race is much too important to be treated in such a way.

Yours faithfully,
C. E. B. ROBINSON,
Deputy Chairman,
Commission for Racial Equality,
Elton House,
10-12 Allington Street, SW1.
June 20.

Gift of tongues

From Major-General A. L. Gadd

Sir, Perhaps it is the extraordinary reason given by Roger Scruton in his June 18 article for teaching English children French ("so that they will understand and appreciate the written word") which gives greatest point to Mr Dick H. Pantlin's statement (in his letter on the same day) that "all my Dutch and German friends speak fluently at least three languages".

As long as the object of language teaching is seen as literary appreciation we shall remain a basically monoglot nation. On the Continent - even nowadays in France - it is well understood that the first aim is to facilitate communication by developing fluency in speech

Europe still lacking in resources

From Mr Bryan Cassidy, MEP-elect for Dorset East and Hampshire West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, As a newly elected member of the European Parliament I found myself in complete accord with the view expressed (feature, June 27) by Terence Higgins, MP, that the case for an increase in the European Community's "own resources" (ORs) has not been made convincingly.

In effect, the extra money will go to the European Commission, a body which has shown little realization of the need for economy yet contrives to generate proposals to regulate every aspect of commercial and industrial life.

I fear that any increase in the Commission's funding will lead to yet more "social engineering" like the "Vredeling" initiative, the fifth Company Law Directive and the twin directives to control the use of temporary work and part-time work.

The last two will certainly have the effect of reducing the amount of temporary and part-time work available without any compensating gain in full-time employment. Since a very large proportion of temporary and part-time workers are women, both measures will mean a reduction in female job opportunities.

As for the argument that an increase in ORs is needed to finance still greater agricultural support, I am, like Terence Higgins, unconvinced. Though I had a hard time from dairy farmers during the recent election, I had an even harder time from consumers who are irate at such things as the sale of butter to the Soviet at 7p per pound.

The dairy farmers assured me that they would far rather have an EEC agricultural policy which was subject to market forces than one which was decided by political whims.

The European Community is going through a bad patch in the eyes of UK citizens. That is why so many voted with their bottoms on June 14 by staying at home. The abstainers will not be persuaded that things have got better if part of the solution to the UK's budget problem

Falklands fishing

From Mr Simon Lyster

Sir, In his letter (June 18) on the Falklands fishing issue Dr Godman missed the main point. It would be counter-productive to encourage any more fishermen in Falklands waters, whether Argentine or otherwise, without first controlling the amount of fish they can catch.

Falklands fish stocks are (or were until recently) extremely rich. But because the British Government has failed to declare a 200-mile fishing zone around the islands, trawlers from any country (except Argentina) are free to take as much fish as they can catch without any restriction and without paying a penny in licence fees.

As a result, Polish, Russian, East German, Japanese, Spanish and Taiwanese vessels have been pouring into Falklands waters in the last 18 months and are fishing as hard as they can while the bonanza lasts.

In 1980 an anonymous writer

Helicopter link

From Professor J. B. Large

Sir, I was amazed to read in your June 23 edition that the Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Transport had overturned the Civil Aviation Authority approval for a further extension of the licence to operate the Heathrow/Gatwick helicopter link because of environmental disturbance (Noise?).

I acted as a consultant on noise matters to British Caledonian during the CAA hearing, agreeing to represent the airline after an examination of the noise problem had led me to the conclusion that it was not a major factor at any point along the route. Apparently the CAA agreed with my conclusions when making their recommendations.

'Star wars' programme

From Mr Philip Payne

Sir, The idea of securing nuclear protection by means of celestial technology and reassuring words - Strategic Defence Initiative - is a comfort. The umbrella might still leak (Dr Cockcroft, June 22) but except for the thirty million or so with a terminal drip in the neck we shall have all-round protection - while the Russians, being technologically behind, are still scratching their heads.

Good for us; less good for them. If, however, the intention is to reduce tension by limiting the threat to both sides, then the Americans will pass on their defence technology to the Russians, step by step. I doubt if a single reader of today's *Times* believes that they will. Instead, the aim is that the West - or a part of it - shall be protected and the East vulnerable, and the balance of terror destroyed.

Yet for 20 years this balance has been central to American arguments for increasing the stock of nuclear weapons.

One can only assume that, like

our customers, before they buy our products, to learn our language. It is also bad manners and is so recognized.

As, until recently, linguistic director of, and examiner in, the London Chamber of Commerce's education programme, I was for many years involved in missionary work to convert the "Scrutonians" to the realistic approach of our Continental neighbours and competitors. There is still a long way to go but, if the establishment of good communications among European peoples is important, it is a way worth going.

Yours obedient servant,
A. L. GADD,
Flete, Ermington, Ivybridge, Devon.
June 19.

Ariel's riposte to Shakespeare

From Mr Bert Gallon

Sir, A moment's consideration of Mr Trevor Nunn's claim (June 23) that the proposed External Services transmitting station at Bearley threatens the Royal Shakespeare Theatre with closure should be sufficient to dismiss it from the minds of reasonable people.

It is, of course, inconceivable that the BBC, a leading patron of the arts, would contemplate, much less pursue, any action which could have this devastating effect.

Mr Nunn is clearly less than confident in the case his own RSC technical staff ably presented during almost six weeks of public inquiry, and in quoting the Senior Director of Development and Technology, British Telecom, to the effect that if Bearley were built the theatre's systems would be "seriously affected by radio interference", he is seeking to by-pass the inquiry itself.

Mr Nunn's colleague, Mr Terry Hands, first quoted this alleged statement in an interview with the *Stratford Herald* newspaper in February. But when the public inquiry resumed for its final session in March the RSC made no attempt to introduce the statement in evidence, nor was it referred to in any other way.

No doubt Mr Nunn and Mr Hands had their reasons for protecting this apparently important assertion and its author from cross-examination. It is directly contradicted by the evidence.

Tests requested by the inquiry's technical assessor were carried out by the BBC and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in January, with the full co-operation of the RSC and under the observation of the independent Electrical Research Association. The report on these tests is available for anyone to inspect. Readers may judge for themselves.

Yours faithfully,
BERT GALLON,
Chief Engineer, External Broadcasting,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
PO Box 76,
Bush House,
Strand, WC2.
June 27.

Affording City statue

From Alderman Sir Edward Howard

Sir, When Sir Winston Churchill resigned as Prime Minister in 1953 my father, as Lord Mayor, had the pleasant task of unveiling Sir Winston's statue in Guildhall.

This statue, which is a masterpiece by Oscar Nemon, is freely available for the public to go and see.

Sir Winston, who was present at the ceremony, was delighted and made it quite clear that he much preferred the statue to the Sutherland portrait given to him an hour or two previously by the Houses of Parliament.

Your Diarist's comment, in your issue of June 21, that the City is too mean to erect an Oscar Nemon statue could hardly be more wide of the mark.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD HOWARD,
Garden House,
18 Finsbury Circus, EC2.
June 22.

Fair's fair in Europe

From Mr R. A. Warren

Sir, The real result of the recent European elections in Great Britain is that 15 per cent of the electorate got a MEP that they voted for, 10 per cent got a MEP that they voted against, and 68 per cent of the electorate abstained. This result shows that, with our electoral system, if one votes the chances are that one gets a MEP that one is against.

Is it any wonder that so many abstain?

Only just over 15 per cent of us have a representative in Strasbourg whom we have helped to elect. And this from the so-called Mother of Democracy!

Our elections are like betting, in which the majority of punters lose. They should be about representation. Could the fact that our legislatures are so clearly unrepresentative be the cause of so much of today's industrial law defiance?

No legislation without fair representation!

Yours faithfully,
R. A. WARREN,
19 Rectory Road,
Farnborough,
Hampshire.
June 21.

A dog's life

From Mr A. C. Norfolk

Sir, Why all this fuss about the veterinary surgeon who assisted a surgeon in an operation (report, June 27)?

When my Labrador was the victim of a shooting accident our local vet had him back at work in a week. If ever the same fate should befall me, I would be very happy for the same vet to exercise his skill on me.

I suspect that a majority of people are more satisfied with the service their pet receives from the veterinary profession than they are with the treatment they themselves get from the medical profession.

Yours faithfully,
A. C. NORFOLK,
Grove End,
Mount Street,
Diss,
Norfolk.
June 27.

Scandalous delay over remand prisoner Extra road accident damages for divorce

Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison and Another, Ex parte WalshBefore Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Scarman and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook
[Speeches delivered June 28]

A state of affairs which appeared to be little short of scandalous was disclosed by an appeal in which the House of Lords unanimously held that neither the Home Secretary nor the governor of a prison who held in his custody prisoners remanded on bail by a magistrates' court in accordance with the provisions of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 was under an unconditional duty to produce them at court in accordance with the terms of their remand on duly notified dates.

The duty of the Home Secretary, or of the governor acting under powers delegated to him, was to consider in accordance with section 29 of the Criminal Justice Act 1961 whether he was satisfied that it was desirable in the interests of justice that such prisoners should be so produced, and, if he was so satisfied, not unreasonably to refuse to produce them.

Their Lordships so answered a certified question when dismissing an appeal by Patrick John Walsh from the refusal by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Webster) of his application for a writ of *habeas corpus ad respondendum* directed to the governor of Brixton prison to bring the appellant before magistrates' courts for trial and to be examined on dates on which he had been remanded on bail under section 128 (1)(b) of the 1980 Act, for an order that the prison governor and/or the Home Secretary produce the appellant before those courts and for a declaration that the governor was under a duty to do so (*The Times*, October 28 (1984) 2 WLR 211).

Mr Ian Macdonald and Mr Nicholas Blake for the appellant; Mr Simon D Brown and Mr C. J. M. Symons for the prison governor and the Home Secretary.

LORD FRASER, with whose opinion Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Keith, Lord Scarman, and Lord Brandon agreed, said that the appellant was arrested on August 7, 1983 and appeared on August 8 in the London South Western magistrates' court on burglary and assault charges. He was remanded in custody to Brixton prison until August 15. Since then he had been repeatedly remanded in custody and still was at that prison awaiting trial on those charges ("the South Western court charges").

When arrested on August 7 the appellant was on bail. He had been remanded on bail in respect of three other separate charges or sets of charges. One was dismissed and so required no further consideration. On another he was convicted and he had served the three months' imprisonment imposed on him.

The third set - theft, criminal damage and assault - was still pending and the issue on appeal arose on it. He was arrested on those charges on June 18, 1983 and he appeared at Horseferry Road magistrates court on June 19 ("the Horseferry Road charges"). He was remanded on bail until August 9, by which time he was in Brixton prison and the governor, did not know until too late that the appellant was due to appear at the Horseferry Road court on that day.

The justices enlarged the appellant's bail until September 9. In due course the police applied to the governor, under section 29 of the 1961 Act, for him to be produced on that date. He was not produced then until September 16 and instructed his clerk to write, as she did, to the governor asking him to arrange for the appellant's production at the court on September 16. The police also asked the governor to produce the appellant at the court on that date. However, he was not produced.

The justices, apparently losing patience, issued a bench warrant for his arrest. The warrant had never been served on him because of his being in prison.

The appellant alleged that the governor and the Home Secretary were under a duty to produce him, or to arrange for his production, at the Horseferry Road court on September 9 and 16 and that they failed to perform that duty although the prison governor had proper notice that production was required. The governor had sworn an affidavit that the reason why the appellant had not been produced on those dates was shortage of staff, in that insufficient prison officers were available to act as escorts.

By the time the appeal reached the House of Lords an order for *habeas corpus ad respondendum* would no longer have been appropriate because there was no future date until which the appellant had been remanded on bail.

However, the question of principle remained as to whether the Home Secretary or the prison governor who held in his custody prisoners remanded on bail by a magistrates' court under the 1980 Act was under a duty to produce them at court in accordance with the terms of their remand on duly notified dates.

On appeal, Mr Macdonald relied entirely on a duty which he said was imposed on the Home Secretary and the prison governor at common law. He said that, in the absence of exceptional circumstances - such as an acute shortage of staff because of some emergency - the duty was incumbent on the governor as part of a more general duty to obey orders of the court, and not to prevent other persons from obeying orders of the court or to obstruct or interfere with the course of public justice.

The governor's duty was imposed primarily by section 128 (1) (a) of

the 1980 Act - amendments by section 59 of and schedule 9 to, the Criminal Justice Act 1982 were irrelevant for the present purpose. The commitment order spelled out in further detail the governor's duty. Addressed to the constables of the Metropolitan Police and the prison governor the order made by the South Western court on August 15 committing the appellant to prison on remand stated: "And you, the governor [are hereby required] to receive the accused into your custody and, unless the accused is released on bail, or you are otherwise ordered in the meantime, to keep the accused until the above date [August 15, 1983] and then convey the accused to the said magistrates' court at the above time [10 am]."

No similar duty to convey the accused to the court was imposed on the governor when a person was remanded on bail. The justices enlarged the appellant's bail until September 9, but the statutory provision relevant to the present question was section 29 (1) of the 1961 Act - which would modify the 1679 Act in so far as it would otherwise apply to the circumstances.

The discretionary power conferred by section 29(1) on the responsible minister (the Home Secretary) had been delegated by him to prison governors for, *inter alia*, the production of prisoners, at the request of the police, to answer another charge - see *Circular Instruction No. 11/1971* of the Prison Department of the Home Office.

The governor had a discretionary power, but no duty was imposed on him, to direct a prisoner to be taken to a court if the governor was satisfied that the prisoner's attendance at the court was desirable in the interests of justice.

The governor's only relevant duty was first to consider any request from the police for the attendance of the prisoner in court and, second, not to refuse unreasonably to permit such attendance.

In reply to the justices' clerk's request to produce the appellant on September 16 the governor apologised. He explained that because of severe staff shortages he was unable to escort prisoners outside the prison for further appearances using prison officers.

He added: "Under the provision of Prison Rule 38(2) a prisoner required to be taken in custody outside prison may be taken by a police officer. Should the court so direct it would be possible to release [the appellant] to the police at the prison."

Mr Macdonald submitted that the governor should have "called upon" the police to take the appellant to court. However, that argument failed because the governor had no power to give orders to the police. His Lordship said that it was a matter for regret that there was not

closer cooperation between the prison authorities and the police in the present case.

The usual procedure in London was, if the prison authorities could not provide the necessary numbers of prison officers, that the police were invited to collect some of the prisoners for production.

Unfortunately the system broke down on as far as the appellant was concerned on September 9 and 16, 1983. That was to be regretted but it had not been shown to have been due to the fault of either the governor or the Home Secretary. The Divisional Court had reached the correct conclusion.

The state of affairs disclosed in the appeal appeared to be little short of scandalous. The appellant had been in prison on remand for more than nine months by the time the appeal was heard; he was awaiting trial in the South Western court charges, but for part of that time he was serving the three months' sentence on other charges.

However, he had not been brought to trial on the South Western court charges on which he was originally remanded on bail on June 19, 1983. In respect of the Horseferry Road charges there appeared to be a deadlock. The bench warrant for his arrest on those charges could not be served on him so long as he was in prison on remand, or while serving sentence if he was convicted and sentenced on the South Western court charges.

The Horseferry Road charges might, therefore, continue to hang over his head indefinitely.

Mr Simon D. Brown had informed their Lordships that the Home Secretary was well aware of the serious shortage of staff at Brixton prison and that he was taking energetic measures to remedy the shortage. His Lordship did not doubt that that was correct, but meanwhile the appellant's predicament urgently demanded solution.

Two things seemed to be required. First, he had to be brought to trial on the South Western court charges with the minimum possible further delay. Second, the deadlock which had arisen with regard to the Horseferry Road charges should be brought to the justices' notice in order that they could take suitable measures to bring it to an end.

They might think it right to consider recalling for cancellation the bench warrant granted on September 16, 1983, which had been the main cause of the deadlock and replacing it by an order that the appellant be brought before the court on a date which was early but would leave enough time for an arrangement to be made between the police and the prison governor for an escort to be provided.

It was intolerable that that present deadlock be allowed to continue.

The appeal was dismissed. Solicitors: Hallmark, Carter & Atkinson, Brixton; Treasury Solicitor.

Jones v Jones

Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Robert Goff

[Judgment delivered June 21]

A plaintiff whose serious injuries had caused the breakdown of his marriage was entitled to recover damages to compensate him for having to make financial provision for his family.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr Eric Ernest Jones, from the judgment of Mr Justice Stocker in November 1982 ([1983] 1 WLR 901). Their Lordships held that the defendant, Mr Michael Jones, was liable to have the award made against him increased by including a sum of £15,000 as special damages to compensate the plaintiff for such financial loss.

The defendant was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords. Mr Michael Kennedy, QC and Mr Tom Corrie for the plaintiff; Mr Peter Weitzman, QC and Mr J E Fletcher for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE DUNN, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the plaintiff raised a claim in the assessment of damages for personal injuries which was novel to the court.

The question raised was whether he was entitled to recover a sum sufficient to compensate him for the additional cost he had incurred, and would in future be likely to incur, in making financial provision for his wife and children to live apart from him - it being conceded by the defendant that the marriage broke down by reason of the injuries suffered by the plaintiff as a result of a road accident.

Mr Justice Stocker had held that there was no reason in principle why such loss should not be a recoverable head of damage, but went on to hold that the plaintiff had failed to prove that there was any such loss, and that in the absence of any firm figure an award under that head would be no more than speculative.

In divorce proceedings in 1983 the Hereford County Court had ordered the plaintiff to pay to his wife, aged 28, periodical payments at the rate of £2,445 a year less tax and £64 monthly to each of the two young children. He was further ordered to pay a lump sum of £23,000 to his wife which had been used to buy a house for her and the children.

The plaintiff's appeal was that there was now evidence enabling the court to quantify the loss sustained by reason of his obligation to support his wife and family living separately. There was no cross appeal from the judge's finding that in principle such loss was recoverable.

As a result of the injuries caused in the accident the plaintiff suffered permanent brain damage. He had been awarded a total of £177,500 damages.

It was not disputed by Mr Weitzman that following *Dunne v Dunne* ([1976] Fam 267) the court in assessing financial provisions under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 would take into account any sum awarded to either party by way of damages.

Mr Kennedy submitted that if, as was the case here, the plaintiff was separated or divorced by reason of his injuries and if that separation or divorce was reasonably foreseeable by the defendant, then the plaintiff's damages would be increased in that they made no provision for the additional cost required to maintain two homes instead of one - a sum should be included to "fill up the gap".

Quantification of that sum, he said, was a comparatively simple matter: the £25,000 would not have been required if his wife had remained living with him and additionally some further sum should be added for the increased cost of making payments to his family instead of maintaining them as part of a single family unit.

Mr Weitzman said that as a matter of policy claims of this kind should not be encouraged. If this claim was allowed the floodgates would be opened to many claims of this nature involving prolonged investigation by the court into the reasonableness of a spouse of an injured plaintiff separating from him and the financial consequences of the separation.

That argument should not prevail, if a particular kind of damage was a reasonably foreseeable consequence of a defendant's negligence, he was usually, though

not always, liable for it. Here it was conceded that the loss relied on was reasonably foreseeable. The only question was therefore, as to its quantification.

Mr Weitzman went on to say that there were so many imponderables in the case that the damages were not quantifiable.

There was force in that argument so far as the claim for the additional cost of maintaining the plaintiff's family by periodical payments was concerned: the plaintiff might well have a reduced tax liability because of the divorce court's order or his wife might remarry and thus lose her right to the payments.

In the circumstances the court was not satisfied that the sums payable under the order were greater than those which the plaintiff would have had to pay for the maintenance of his family had they continued to live with him.

The £25,000 payment stood on a different footing. If the family had continued to live together it would not have been necessary for a separate house to have been bought. *Prima facie* that sum was a loss which the plaintiff could point to as having flowed from the divorce.

Mr Weitzman said that that sum should be discounted on the basis that there was a real risk of the marriage breaking down in any event. He founded that submission solely on the present high divorce rate.

But at the time of the accident the marriage had lasted about a year; there was one child and another on the way; no suggestion had been made that the marriage was other

than happy and stable. If there had been the position might have been different.

It was submitted that if the parties had continued to live together and the wife had looked after the plaintiff, then he might have given her a capital sum out of the damages and that the £25,000 should be discounted to take account of that.

That was a reasonable assumption to make. If a wife stood by a badly injured husband who had received a large sum of damages it would be the most natural thing that she should give her some part of the damages as a mark of his appreciation.

It was objected by the plaintiff that that was unlikely as the plaintiff's affairs were managed by the Court of Protection. However that court might well take the view that the patient had a moral obligation to a devoted wife and would authorize the payment of such a gift.

The possibility of the Court of Protection taking such a course was sufficiently real to justify some discount from the £25,000. £10,000 might regard as appropriate.

The plaintiff should recover a further £15,000 as damages to compensate him for the financial loss incurred by reason of the breakdown of the marriage which had to have been foreseen by the injuries which he sustained in the accident. To that extent the appeal was allowed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Bell for Gabb & Co. Hereford; Philip Baker King & Co. Birmingham.

Maintenance appeal provisions vary

Allen v Allen
Before Mrs Justice Booth
[Judgment delivered June 25]

The appeal procedure relating to the refusal of justices to remit maintenance arrears should be as straightforward and as expeditious as possible and it was unfortunate that the provisions varied from one statute to another in the Family Division where the need for clarity and simplicity was paramount.

Mrs Justice Booth so stated when allowing an appeal under Order 90, rule 15 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, from Writal Justices who, on the husband's application to vary a periodical payments order in favour of his former wife, had refused to remit the arrears.

Mr Martyn Bennett for the husband, Mr Nicholas Jarman as *amicus curiae*.

MRS JUSTICE BOOTH said that at a Divisional Court hearing in Liverpool her Ladyship allowed the appeal against the refusal of the justices to vary and the court had made a nominal order.

The appeal from the refusal of the justices to remit the arrears was also by way of notice of motion and not by way of case stated.

Was the husband required to pursue two different courses of appeal against two decisions made upon one complaint which would impose on him and other litigants in the same position a cumbersome and costly procedure?

The question of jurisdiction had been adjourned to London for further argument.

Mr Jarman had supported the submissions of Mr Bennett that the husband's appeal was properly constituted under section 4(7) of the Maintenance Orders Act 1958.

It was accepted that section 95 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 supplemented the powers of the justices so that on an application to vary any arrears could be remitted. The power to remit arrears should be read into the powers of the justices under the 1958 Act and so must be covered by the statutory right of appeal given by section 4(7) of that Act.

Was the court compelled to give a

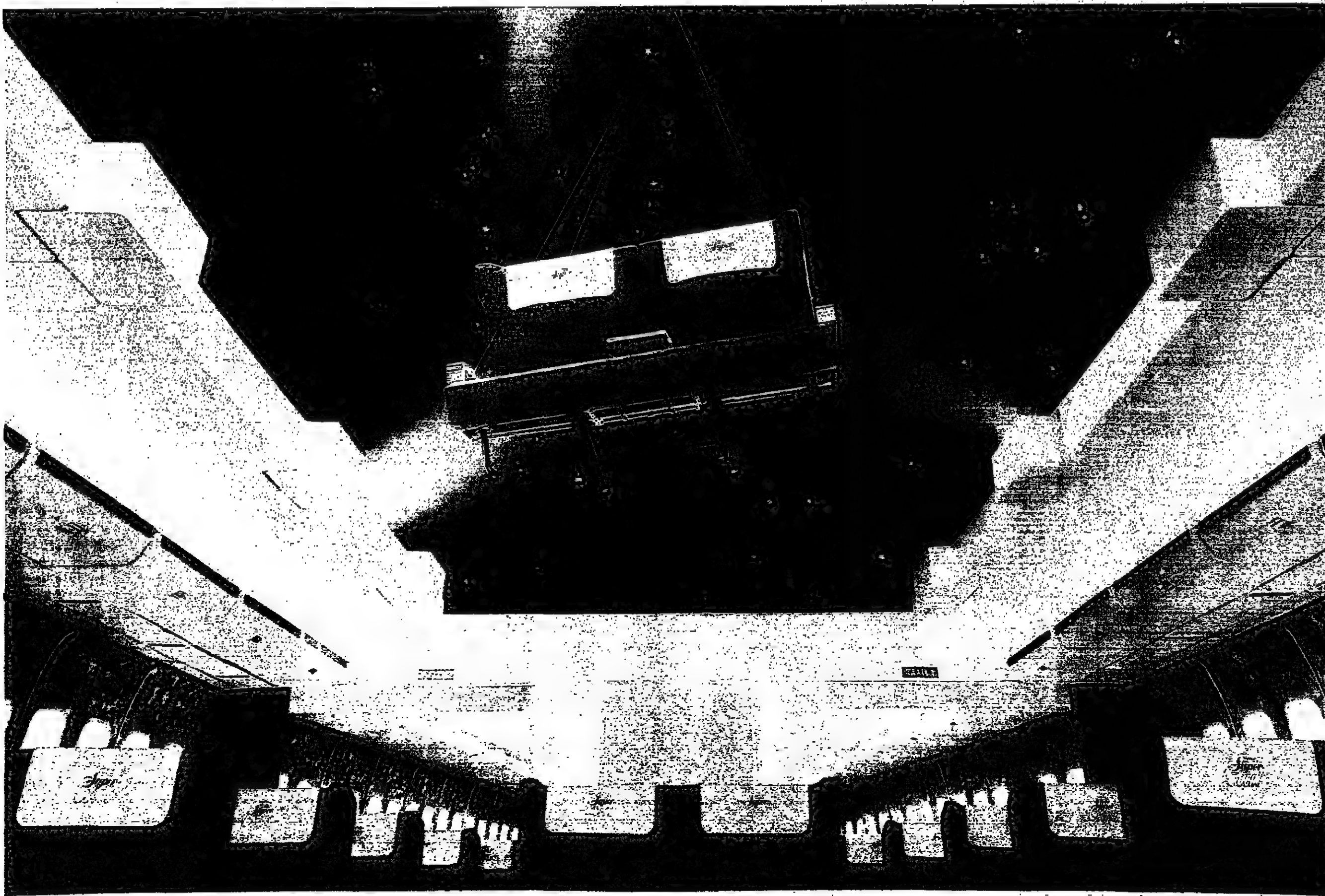
narrow construction to section 4(7) and hold that that part of the order relating to the arrears should be regarded as relating to the enforcement of the order which would compel the appellant to proceed by way of the case stated?

Her Ladyship was not so compelled. The refusal of the justices to remit the arrears was part of their refusal to vary the order itself. Both the orders were made upon the husband's application to vary.

The right of appeal to the High Court provided by section 4(7) of the 1958 Act enabled the husband to appeal by notice of motion. The court would remit the arrears.

It was in the public interest that the procedures to be followed at first instance and on appeal should be as straightforward and as expeditious as possible. Unfortunately, the statutory procedures for appeal varied from one statute to another in a jurisdiction where the need for clarity and simplicity was paramount.

Solicitors: Cuff Roberts North Kirk, Liverpool; Official Solicitor.



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مركز الامن لاصول

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

No.	Company	1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
1	PROPER (T)	130	128	130	128	0	1.8	12.1
2	Be Laid	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
3	Cape & Counties	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
4	Churchills	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
5	De Portland	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
6	Gresham City	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
7	Hallwood GP	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
8	Lynon	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
9	MLP	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
10	Sarnal	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
11	BUILDING AND ROADS	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
12	Bell Bros	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
13	Blue Circle	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
14	Brown & Jackson	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
15	Cart (D) Downer	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
16	Furness (John)	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
17	Mowlem (John)	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
18	Ward	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
19	Warrington (T)	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
20	Watts Blake	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
21	INDUSTRIALS N-Z	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
22	Schnitzer	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
23	Schneider	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
24	Steeles	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
25	Steeles	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
26	Telford	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
27	Tomkins FH	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
28	Turner & Newall	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
29	West	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
30	Whitehead	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
31	INDUSTRIALS E-K	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
32	Eastern Prod	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
33	Foster (JH)	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
34	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
35	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
36	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
37	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
38	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
39	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1
40	Foster	110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's Newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY

BRITISH FUNDS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

SHORTS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

LONGS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

BREWERIES

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

ELECTRICALS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Fear grips market

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 18, Dealings End, Today, 5 Contango Day, July 2, Settlement Day, July 9

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

BUILDING AND ROADS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

INDUSTRIALS N-Z

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

INDUSTRIALS E-K

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

FINANCE AND LAND

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

FOODS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

CINEMAS AND TV

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

DRAPERY AND STORES

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

MINING

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

LEISURE

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

SHIPPING

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

SHOES AND LEATHER

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

TEXTILES

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

TOBACCO

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

PROPERTY

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

INSURANCE

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

LEISURE

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

MINING

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
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LEISURE

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PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

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PROPERTY

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INSURANCE

1984 High	1984 Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yld	P/E
110	108	110	108	0	1.8	12.1

LEISURE

1984 High	198
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Enterprise Oil stains the privatization programme

The Government may have taken the only politically feasible course in blocking RTZ's Enterprise Oil coup, but the ramifications in the City are likely to be considerable - and hardly in the Government's best interests as the next great phase of its privatization programme lurches into view. A fair number of sub-underwriters were naturally up in arms last night at being forced to swallow their underwriting medicine when RTZ's brilliantly conceived intervention, orchestrated by N. M. Rothschild, had threatened to let them off the hook.

After taking legal advice, Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, was apparently convinced that scaling down RTZ's application to 10 per cent was legally permissible without jeopardizing the terms of the underwriting agreement. The prospectus, the Government argues, made it clear that Mr Walker had the right to reject or scale down any application as he saw fit. It also spelt out the Government's clear wish to preserve Enterprise Oil's independence for the first few years of its life. Hence its "golden share" arrangement.

The underwriters are not going to forget this in a hurry. Nobody has any idea how the shares will move when dealings start on Monday. It is true that the Government has not ruled out RTZ or anybody else buying more than 10 per cent of the company, but it is hard to see why anybody would want to do so after yesterday's events. In that case the shares are likely to go to a fairly hefty discount and stay there for some weeks while the problems are sorted out.

Looking ahead, the selling, and underwriting, of the mammoth British Telecom is going to be even stickier than it appeared already.

It would be no surprise if the institutions were to demand a higher fee for their underwriting now that the Government has made clear its willingness to be selective about whose applications it will accept and whose it will not.

One of the ironies of yesterday's drama is that a merger of Enterprise Oil and RTZ's North Sea oil and gas subsidiary would have made much sense on strategic grounds. The tax fit between the two companies' operations was good, and Enterprise offered the kind of management that RTZ's oil operations have always conspicuously lacked. But then Mr Walker turned down all private sector bids British Gas's North Sea oil assets last year in his determination to create a new independent company. Obviously he felt he could not go back on that policy, especially as RTZ would effectively have been buying Enterprise for less than oil companies offered last year - and less than RTZ would have had to pay in any conventional takeover battle.

The RTZ coup was brilliant, but ultimately failed because it challenged the Government's authority. Unfortunately for the Government its privatization programme is now stained with the stigma of failure. It will take some removing.

Guarded optimism from the Bank

The Bank of England can almost be heard touching wood in its new *Quarterly Bulletin*, its discreet public review of financial and economic developments. "The extreme turbulence encountered by the world's financial markets in May seems now to have receded", begins the *Bulletin* with uncharacteristic boldness, "although many of the underlying problems are still unresolved and confidence is

not yet fully restored". Like other authors, the Threadneedle Street scribes have to take the risk that events taking place between pen and print may conspire to make them look silly; but the Bank yesterday was sticking staunchly to its published views.

The *Bulletin*, in fact, is another Bank contribution to the view that things would be rather well if it were not for American upward pressure in interest rates. The world economy is growing faster than it forecast last winter; inflation is roughly stable at 5 per cent. Unemployment, to be sure, is still not coming down; but domestic monetary conditions, the Bank's primary concern, had remained "satisfactory", at least in the period to mid-May.

The Bank takes some pains to demonstrate this. The targeted aggregates, M6 and Sterling M3 have been growing, as the *Bulletin* puts it, "fairly steadily", within or near the prescribed ranges. And this despite the distortion caused by the concentration of public borrowing into the early months of the 1984-5 financial year. The Bank also points to an unusual bunching of gilt-edged maturities in June which have affected net funding, saying proudly that "gilt sales have even so been at a rate above that expected to be necessary for the year as a whole." So, the Bank believes, broad money is likely to be growing more slowly later in the target period.

Well, maybe, but what about those other embarrassing aggregates, like M2 or PSL2 (growing at an annual rate of 17 per cent)?

In the meantime, the Bank remains staunch in its view that the trouble is transatlantic, creating a "difficult and shifting background of events". Plainly anxious about rising American interest rates, it leans "against the spasmodically strong upward market pressures." The *Bulletin* graphically illustrates the switch in money market rates, with the UK moving from three points above the American level in early 1983 to nearly two points below by the middle of this month.

Decoupled? That's not an image the Bank likes. The connection between the rates in the two centres is more like a piece of elastic. But as every schoolgirl knows, elastic can be stretched only so far.

Seeing through Chinese walls

Conflicts of interest in the City are endemic and they will spread as the new Stock Exchange dealing structure is put in place. Hitherto the City's critics were answered with integrity and Chinese walls - those remarkable invisible barriers between possessors of market sensitive information and fund managers and other dealers in the same organization who could benefit from it. But as no less an authority than Professor Jim Gower remarked the other evening, no Chinese wall is known to exist that does not have gravities trailing over it.

That belief is shared - from experience - by members of the One Hundred Group of accountants who work in the higher echelons of industry. A working party under Mr David Hardy, in a response to the Stock Exchange's discussion paper, is critical to the point of cynicism. It questions the validity of having investment management in the same grouping as corporate finance and banking. It is incensed at the thought market makers might be permitted to manage pension funds. And it is not mollified one bit by the Stock Exchange's dragging of feet on the issue of complete disclosure - the best guarantee against rip-offs.

Midland shares fall sharply on size of debt exposure

By Wayne Lintott

The shares of Midland Bank plunged from 300p to 277p at one stage on the stock market yesterday as one of London's leading stock brokers, Rowe & Pitman, unloaded a million shares. Later the price recovered to 287p, their lowest closing price this year.

In after-hours dealings more large sellers appeared as news of the renouncing spread through the market. The renouncing stemmed from a disclosure to the US Securities and Exchange Commission, the regulatory body of American stock markets, which showed the full extent of Midland Bank's loan exposure to Latin American debtors and also that of its American subsidiary, Crocker National Bank of California.

Both banks, in percentage terms, had a larger exposure than that of their British and American competitors.

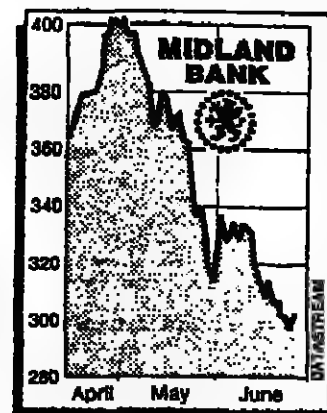
The figures disclosed to the SEC were that Midland had outstanding loans totalling \$200m to Argentina, \$1.300m to Mexico and undisclosed sum

(reportedly £250m) to Venezuela. In addition Crocker has lent \$476m (\$366m) to Argentina, \$765m to Brazil, \$330m to Chile, \$375m to Mexico and \$239m to Venezuela - a combined total of \$2,440m.

Crocker had outstanding total loans, as at March 31, of \$15,951m, so the loans to Latin America work out at more than 14 per cent of the total loan exposure, several percentage points above other big American commercial banks.

The relevance of these figures is that Latin American countries, particularly Argentina and Brazil, have been the strongest opponents of the commercial banks' attempts to restructure Latin American debts of \$350 billion. And their failure to meet interest and principal payments could have a serious effect on the profitability of commercial banks.

This led leading stockbrokers to re-examine Midland's financial figures. At £3 a share, Midland was yielding 12 per cent with a price-earnings ratio



price-earnings base. In simple terms, they felt that the shares were grossly over-valued at 300p and believed that 250p was a more realistic level.

To add to Midland's troubles yesterday, there were reports of a serious disagreement within the boardroom of the bank. An article in *Financial Weekly* suggested that some directors favoured the bank cutting its interim dividend, which costs \$60m. This would help the capital base and increase potential lending power.

A 50 per cent cut in the dividend, saving \$30m, would under banking guidelines, enable the Midland to increase its lending by £1.5 billion, or alternatively to pump the money back into its own business.

The disagreement arises from the size of Midland's capital base, the central calculation determining how much Midland can lend worldwide. The fear is that if the Crocker subsidiary suffers any further problems, it will have to call on the parent bank for assistance.

IMF fails to persuade Nigeria to devalue

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The latest round of negotiations between Nigeria and the International Monetary Fund have failed to break the deadlock over the IMF's insistence on an immediate devaluation of the Nigerian naira.

According to monetary sources in Washington, the IMF is still not convinced that Nigeria's counter-proposals are sufficient response to the country's economic problems.

A Nigerian team, led by Alhaji Abubakar Alhaji, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance, held talks with the IMF last week. But the two sides could not reach agreement and no date has been set for further negotiations.

The IMF is still insisting on a devaluation of the naira of about 25 per cent. The Nigerians have consistently opposed this since negotiations started more than a year ago. They argue it would push up inflation and severely damage domestic industries, which rely on imports, while not helping exports, largely oil, which are invoiced in dollars. The Nigerians have instead argued for a gradual devaluation.

The Nigerian team met with leading commercial bank creditors in London last Friday on its way back from Washington. Commercial bankers have some sympathy with the Nigerian resistance to a large devaluation. However, they are concerned that the country should eventually reach an agreement with the IMF.

Despite its balance of payments problems, precipitated by falling oil revenues, Nigeria has managed to stay broadly up to date on its debt service payments on medium-term bank debt which totals about \$10 billion (£7.41 billion). Instead the main problem has been over trade debts.

Agreement was reached last week on refinancing about \$2 billion in terms of a new loan with commercial banks and negotiations have been proceeding since then to deal with other trade debts.

However, export credit agencies, including Britain's Export Credits Guarantee Department, which is owed about \$600m, have insisted that agreement on refinancing trade arrears owed to them must be conditional on Nigeria first agreeing on an economic programme with the IMF.

Bankers close to the negotiations said talks with the IMF had not broken down and could be resumed at any time.

Besides devaluation of the naira, there appear to be other minor sticking points in reaching agreement.

Dee promises not to buy more of Booker

By Philip Robinson

Dee Corporation yesterday promised the government it would not buy further shares in Booker McConnell and vote only three-quarters of its 19.9 per cent stake without its permission.

The undertakings came after three days of talks between Dee and the Department of Trade, which was seeking "status quo" undertakings from the food group after its £230m bid for Booker McConnell was rejected by the Monopolies Commission.

A reference normally means that neither side may do anything to increase its influence over the other. Instead Dee went into the stock market and added 5 per cent of Booker to the 14.9 per cent it had already. It has now promised not to use the votes on this 5 per cent, but reserved the right to request that they be enfranchised should circumstances change.

Booker urged strongly for a monopolies investigation reference and said that Dee should be made to divest the 5 per cent it bought after the reference.

Booker announced changes in its top management yesterday and put the lease of its London headquarters up for sale. Mr Michael Caine remains as executive chairman but Mr Jonathan Taylor - who

built up the group's American operations - will fill the new post of managing director.

Mr David Turner, who has been with Booker for 10 years and joined the corporate planning group last summer, will replace Mr Michael Wildy who is retiring as finance director at the age of 57. Mr Mike Heurder and Mr John Nutt will resign from the board.

One of the main themes of argument of Mr Alec Monk, the chairman of Dee Corporation, to justify his bid for Booker was that the Dee management could run Booker's food, agricultural and health products group better than its incumbent management.

A spokesman for Booker said last night: "There is no acknowledgment of that assertion in these changes. They have been planned for some time."

Booker also announced yesterday that it will move its headquarters out of London and transfer the food division to Ruislip after the sale of its headquarters at Uxbridge.

Dee directors were unavailable for comment last night. It is understood that Dee argued strongly to the Department of Trade's stake in Booker to 20 per cent.

News stake in St Regis

New York (NY Times) - Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of News Corporation, has purchased an interest in the St Regis Corporation, a paper and forest products company, and Regis announced on June 12 that it would buy the Colonial Penn. Corp., an insurance company, in a transaction valued at \$370m (£370.5m) and would issue 4.8 million new shares of common stock as part of the deal.

notified within 10 days of the purchase of 5 per cent or more of a public company.

In a move that could prove to be an obstacle to a takeover, St Regis announced on June 12 that it would buy the Colonial Penn. Corp., an insurance company, in a transaction valued at \$370m (£370.5m) and would issue 4.8 million new shares of common stock as part of the deal.

Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, plc

Points from Sir Richard Storey's statement to shareholders

Profits down in a year of development

In the year to March 1984 trading conditions were such that our newspaper advertising volume fell 1% while newspaper sales and advertising revenue in real terms remained stable. Costs, although carefully scrutinized and restrained, rose by 8%, in consequence the group pre-tax profit of £1,077,000 was only 51% of last year's.

There are good explanations for the exceptional result. Difficulties with the new Portsmouth press cost about £400,000. To provide funds for the development of its business, the Company not only realized a block of its investments which last year contributed a non-trading profit of £302,000 but also borrowed money which cost £253,000 in interest. Moreover the Company's decision to promote newspaper sales by not regularly increasing cover prices meant that this year revenue did not match rising costs.

There are encouraging signs that in the current year advertising volume will rise. In February cover prices were raised. No further increase is planned until circulation, inevitably reduced by these recent rises, have at least been restored.

In the autumn the Company acquired The Croydon Advertiser Series of 13 weekly paid-for and free newspapers in the South London suburbs between Bromley and Epsom, transferred the printing to Portsmouth, and sold the Croydon press and premises with lease-back of those parts still required. There are plans to invest this business's results.

An important event was the flotation of News Holdings plc. On June 1 the Company's Reuters shares became worth £7.1m (after allowing for capital gains tax). It was decided to retain about half the value of these holdings in Reuters and to realise £3.5m which, together with £2.5 million corporation tax repayment, will substantially reduce the Company's net borrowing.

Modern Production Methods at The News Centre

I have repeatedly stressed the importance of making the optimum use of all modern newspaper production methods and recently welcomed progress towards achieving such use with the National Circulation Association and other trade unions. It is particularly frustrating, therefore, to have to report that at The News Centre, Portsmouth, the second phase of a three-phase introduction of single-keyboard was not introduced. Little time now remains for implementing these two phases if the Company's 1984 target is to be

met. (The Company, in much cost to itself, agreed to the long phasing-in period only to help the N.G.A.'s political situation.)

A commitment has been confirmed that no employee at The News Centre will be made compulsorily redundant as a result of the introduction of this technology. In return, the N.G.A. has demanded a closed shop for its transferred members, or a general closed shop in journalism. Neither demand is acceptable - as it would not be to almost any newspaper in this country's provincial press. (One newspaper which did agree an editorial closed shop was expelled from the Newspaper Society for breaching a basic tenet.) The Company, as it has stated for many years, cannot accept a closed shop for those who write for it - to do so would allow a trade union the means of controlling editorial content.

It is becoming obvious that the N.G.A. is more intent on preserving its organization than on keeping provincial newspapers profitable enough to continue to provide jobs for its members. This philosophy is like the management of a hospital concentrating more on employing doctors and nurses than on healing the sick. Continuing use of futile labour only degrades employees and weakens a business. Newspapers in most other industrialized countries of the world have long since transferred those who did such futile composing-room jobs to productive work. While everybody greatly hopes that the ten-year-old negotiations will be successful, the position is approaching very fast when alternative means for securing the full use of modern technology will have to be sought.

News Shops
News Shops' year was disastrous. Consumer expenditure on alcohol, tobacco, books, papers, and magazines declined. News Shops also suffered a serious trend and, in combination, these misfortunes converted last year's poor profit into this year's C.C.A. loss of £177,000. I remain confident that this subsidiary will become properly profitable. The Company sold and leased-back the shops' freehold premises for £601,000.

Cablevision
When Solent Cablevision Limited failed to obtain a cablevision licence, the Company sold its investment in that consortium and is taking, instead, the opportunity arising from

its new Croydon newspapers, to see if an investment might be made in the company which obtained a licence there.

The South
The £11m building extension in Portsmouth with the two Cos Murrells presses was formally opened by my son, Kenelm, on November 25, 1983. These presses are now producing high-quality work including colour. The Company incurred substantial losses from various technical problems when these presses failed to operate properly and continuously from the start-up date. The suppliers, with the help of the Company's management and staff, spent much time investigating the problems, making modifications and recommendations.

The North East
In Sunderland the contract printing now includes a good contract from abroad. This is an example of a well-run office - although without the best use of modern technology reducing its unit costs and thus being able to compete with European printers and to maintain jobs.

Plans for the modernization of Hartlepool office have been confirmed, a provisional agreement with the trade unions reached, a newspaper press ordered, and other equipment is being planned.

Other Subsidiary Interests
The revenue of Communications and Employee Relations Training Limited increased to £180,000 and its profit to £29,000. The success of this small subsidiary during the recession is praiseworthy. C.E.R.T. is working for some highly respected companies - such as the Cornhill Insurance Company and Reuters. Although it is still small, C.E.R.T. is well-founded and well-placed to develop.

The Good News Production Company Limited, while making a loss of £25,000 in the difficult trading circumstances of last year, recently achieved some successful sales. It, too, has done an increasing amount of good work for well-reputed companies, also including Reuters, and has found a particular niche in working for publishers, providing services for most of the better-known names in that industry. I am confident that this company will become profitable. Development in co-operation with other newly-founded or acquired companies, especially C.E.R.T., could be beneficial.

Sterling up 45 points

Sterling slipped to \$1.3425 briefly in morning trading yesterday, its lowest recorded rate against the dollar, but at the close the pound was 45 points higher on the day at \$1.3520. The effective exchange rate, which measures sterling against its main trading partners, ended the day unchanged at 78.7, after falling at noon to 78.7, the lowest for 15 months.

Dealers said that the pressure on sterling came from continuing worries about the course of American interest rates, combined with the miners' strike and signs of weakening oil prices.

But trading was quiet, and there was no sign of intervention by the Bank of England. The strength of the dollar during the morning reflected the possibility of a flight into dollar caused by fighting in the Gulf and financial instability in Latin America.

During the afternoon, however, there was a general recovery of European currencies against the dollar.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1038.9 up 0.6
Bargains: 15.50
Deutsche Lira: 1009.19 down 0.20
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1122.68 up
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 10,372.05 up 61.04
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 903.83 down 21.14
Amsterdam: 155.2 up 0.5
Sydney: AD Index 650.3 down 0.1
Frankfurt: Dax Index 1007.5 up 6.3
Brussels: General Index 141.45 down 0.62
Paris: CAC Index 169.8 down 0.2
Zurich: SBA General 291.50 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.3520 up 45pts
Index 78.8 unchanged
DM 3.77 unchanged
Fr 11.5575 down 0.0125
Yen 320.75 unchanged
Dollar Index 133.9 up 0.2
DM 2.7840 down 0.0060
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.3525
Dollar DM 2.7830
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.594314
SDR £0.761418

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9%
Finance houses base rate 9 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed 8 1/4
3 month interbank 9 5/8 - 1/4
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 12 1/4 - 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/8 - 5 1/8
3 month Fr 12 1/4 - 12 1/8
US rates:
Bank prime rate 13.00
Fed funds 10 1/8
Treasury long bond 9 1/8 - 9 1/8
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period May 2 to June 5, 1984 inclusive: 9.516 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$371.50 pm \$372.80
close \$373.50 - \$374.25 (\$276.25 - \$276.75)
New York (latest): \$372.25
Krugger (per 1000): \$385.50 (\$285.286)
Sovereigns (new): \$87.50 - \$88.50 (\$64.75 - \$65.50)
Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

P&O raises £42m with US sale

P & O, the shipping group, yesterday confirmed the sale of its Falco petroleum products offshoot in the US to InterNorth Inc, a Delaware corporation, for \$58.4m (£42m).

The news follows last week's announcement of the group's £71m sale of its former City head office in Leadenhall Street. P & O, chaired by Mr Jeffrey Sterling, is still under threat of a takeover from Trafalgar House.

THE telecommunications group Cable and Wireless, one of the first companies to be privatized, yesterday reported pretax profits £33m higher at £190m for the year to the end of March. A final dividend of 4.1p is recommended, raising the year's total 18 per cent to 6.5.

Tempus, page 19

● MK ELECTRIC plans to pay a final dividend of 6.2p a share, making a total for the year to March 31 of 9.4p. Pretax profits rose from £13.3m to £17.6m.

Tempus, page 19

● REDLAND's pretax profits to March 31 were £95.9m (£66.3m). The dividend was raised to 9.5p net (8.08p).

Tempus, page 19

● YESTERDAY'S House of Fraser board meeting passed off without incident with the group declaring the final dividend of 6p as a second interim. Fraser still waits to see whether its largest shareholder, Lomthor, will be allowed to unseat some directors.

Spending changes urged

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Industry and commerce should be encouraged to fund by public spending, provided there is no substantial deterioration in the world economy.

The industrial training budget might be cut by using the private sector, particularly the chambers of commerce.

But the association says its members strongly oppose cuts in adult unemployment benefit should see a firm target of 1 per cent annual reduction in the

proportion of output taken up by public spending, provided there is no substantial deterioration in the world economy.

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Rapid trade expansion expected

Outlook steadier, says Bank

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Bank of England forecast

Demand in 7 major economies

% change 1983 1984 1985

GNP Domestic demand 2.3 3.8 2.4

Domestic demand 2.7 4.4 2.3

of which consumption 2.4 2.7 2.1

fixed investment 2.5 7.1 4.1

stockbuilding 0.2 0.8 -0.1

net exports -0.3 -0.5 0.1

*US, Japan, West Germany, France, UK, Italy, Canada

% of GNP/GDP

stabilize at about 5 per cent, with some slowdown in high-inflation countries (notably France and Italy).

● For Britain, the Bank is not quite prepared to endorse the Treasury's forecast of a fall in inflation to only 4.5 per cent by the end of the year, but expects no more than 5 per cent.

In expects, unit labour costs to stabilize at about 3 to 4 per cent.

● The Bank is plainly puzzled

by continuing low inflation in the United States, but points to the possibility of a surge in wage costs "as a delayed response to rapidly changing conditions in the labour market".

● The Bank believes the British economy would have grown at an annual rate of 3 per cent in the early part of this year if it had not been for the miners' strike, and that this rate would have sustained right through 1984. But it is expecting unemployment to stabilize rather than fall.

Chief executive goes after Aidcom merger

By Jonathan Clare

Mr Jeremy Fowler, the chief executive of Aidcom International for 12 months, is leaving the company after a merger with a US group which will create the world's largest design and marketing consultancy.

Mr W. Pratt Thompson, chairman of the computers to market research company, said yesterday that Mr Fowler was "fully behind" the merger with S&O Consultants of San Francisco but was leaving on July 16, to follow his own interests.

The post of chief executive is being discontinued and the combined company is to be run by two executive committees. Mr Thompson said Mr Fowler would receive compensation, would also be used as a consultant, and had said he would not establish himself as a competitor.

Mr Thompson said: "He's been discussing this with his colleagues for two months. He's

an entrepreneurial chap and this has nothing to do with S&O. The position is being discontinued and we have to honour his contract."

He added that the nature of the discussions made it impossible to say whether the decision to abolish the chief executive's post or Mr Fowler's decision to leave had come first.

S&O is a private company operating from San Francisco with representation in Hong Kong, Japan and other areas in the Pacific basin. Aidcom is paying \$5.5m through an issue of new shares, some of which will be placed for the directors of S&O who are selling the company.

The merger will give S & O directors a 12 per cent stake in the enlarged company. About 11 per cent will be held by Mr Jim Shennan, S & O's president, and Mr R. Ohrenschall, the chairman. More shares could be issued in three years' time depending on profits.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **TOOTAL:** The annual meeting was held in the first four months of the current year are well ahead of last time. This confirms the board's belief that the full year will show an improvement. The ratio of borrowings to shareholders' funds fell last year from 47 to 31 per cent - its lowest since 1968 - and is being held at a continuing satisfactory level. This year will largely complete the reshaping of the group which was started in 1980 and will see an end to the extraordinary write-offs.

● **BRICKHOUSE DUDLEY:** Year to March 31. Turnover £37.07m (£33.71m). Pretax profit £919,000 (£1.44m). Total dividend 3.2p (same). Higher profit likely in current year, board reports.

● **HARDYS & HANSON:** Half-year to March 30. Turnover £8.28m (£7.9m). Pretax profit £1.28m (£1.17m). Interim payment, net, 4.5p (4.3p).

● **SOUTHERN STADIUM:** Dividend for 1983 up from 0.5p to 0.55p a share. Pretax profit £147,000 (£126,000).

● **J & H B JACKSON:** Half-year to March 31. Turnover £15.09m (£12.6m). Pretax profit £820,000 (£901,000). Interim payment, 0.75p (same).

● **HERON INTERNATIONAL:** A 43.3 per cent increase in pretax profit to a record £25.8m is reported for the year to March 31. Turnover was up 67 per cent at 688m and shareholders' funds advanced by 12.7 per cent to £240m. "This has

been a year of progress, continuing our unbroken record of growth," reports Mr Gerald Rosson, the chairman. "With or without an acquisition, we look forward to another year of growth in profits and turnover."

● **EXTEL GROUP** has acquired Taxation Publishing Company for £250,000, which will be satisfied by the issue of 162,346 Extel ordinary shares at a pre-emptive price of £23.57p per share. Taxation Publishing has net tangible assets estimated at £200,000.

● **BARHAM MILLAR - C. H. BEAZER:** The offer on behalf of CH Beazer to acquire the capital of Barham Millar not already owned by Beazer has been declared unconditional in all respects. It has been extended until July 11 and will not be extended. Acceptances have been received for 4.27 million shares (34 per cent).

Acceptances, together with Beazer's holding total 7.74 million shares (61.6 per cent). Beazer will endeavour to retain the listing of Barham Millar's shares on the Stock Exchange.

● **GODWIN WARREN CONTROL SYSTEMS:** The annual meeting was held in the first half results should show a sizeable improvement over last year. A large order for parking equipment has been received from Los Angeles for about \$1m and a further order from Beverly Hills in addition to those already received from Boston and JFK Airport. Prospects for the full year remain encouraging.

The British Government has been concerned about the high and rising percentage of its total aid which is channelled through multilateral bodies such as the World Bank and the European Development Fund (EDF), the main disbursement vehicle for Lomé.

Michael Prest on aid, trade and the Lomé Convention

Jockeying for position in the great partnership of equals



Edgar Pisani: A blueprint that erodes principles

Ministers from the European Community and their counterparts from the 64 developing countries which are signatories to the Lomé Convention gathered in Luxembourg yesterday for a meeting which they wearily hope will draw the outline of a third convention, nicknamed Lomé 3.

It is an important meeting. The EEC is willing to specify how much aid it will make available over the five-year life of the next convention (1985-1990). After nine months or more of hard bargaining this is the main outstanding item - deliberately kept that way by wily EEC negotiators.

However, the gathering is important for another, negative, reason. It looks highly likely that when the ministers part, probably in the early hours of Saturday, the outline of the new treaty will confirm the predominance of the EEC. What began with Lomé I in 1975 as a much-trumpeted "partnership of equals," an allegedly departure in relations between developed and developing nations, is now more and more resembling what the idealists of Lomé I wished to escape from.

The convention takes its name from the capital of Togo, in west Africa. The first convention (1979-80) attracted 46 signatories, most of which were former colonies of European nations. It now includes all of black Africa south of the Sahara, with the exception of Angola and Mozambique, which are expected to join Lomé 3. In size and power, the countries range from Nigeria to tiny island states in the Pacific and Caribbean. Hence the collective abbreviation ACP - African, Caribbean and Pacific.

The convention covers the two broad areas of aid and trade. But in recent years the ACP countries have argued, with justice, that its provisions have not saved some members, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa, from suffering disproportionately in the world recession. At the same time, EEC members have tended to be in a less accommodating mood.

This is not merely a chauvinist point. Whitehall has long doubted the efficiency of EDF aid. Somewhat to their embarrassment, British representatives have found themselves arguing that the European aid effort is "underadministered" and have, therefore, ardently supported the line that the aid conditions in Lomé should be tougher.

"Conditionality", however, is an unfortunate word in the context of relations between rich and poor nations. So in September, 1982, the redoubtable M. Edgar Pisani, a former French finance minister and the EEC Commissioner in charge of Directorate General VIII which handles Lomé, coined the term "policy dialogue".

In what became known as the "Pisani Memorandum", he set out the commission's objectives for the then forthcoming negotiations over Lomé 3. The starting point was that the greatest need of the convention's hard-pressed African signatories was for a coherent and workable food policy. But this in turn implied a switch from financing individual projects and consequently better coordination of regional or sectoral schemes.

Innocent as it seems, the logic chipped away at the explicit purpose of the Lomé conventions: the partnership of equals. To put the partnership into practice, the treaties set up an elaborate machinery: permanent ambassadors from the ACP are resident in Brussels; there are regular meetings of ACP and EEC ministers, with an ACP-EEC council of ministers at the apex; there is an ACP secretariat, and even an EEC-ACP consultative assembly.

In a simple world, the principle of policy dialogue would cut across this vast and cumbersome apparatus. Despite protests this year about the infringement of national sovereignty, the ACP countries have accepted that, whatever the final wording, the next convention will give the EEC greater power over how aid money is spent.

The credit for this understanding is attributed to the skill of the French foreign minister and President of the EEC Council of Ministers, and Mr Hugh Shearer, his Jamaican opposite for the ACP, handled the issue at the ministerial meeting in Suva, Fiji, last May.

Yet the apparatus remains. If the next aid budget (confusingly known in Europeak as EDF 6) were to be increased by the 56

per cent necessary just to restore its real value the total would be ECU7,500m (£12,700m) over 5 years. Of that, Britain's share would be about £830m. But as the end of Lomé I (1975-80) 40 per cent of the available funds had not been disbursed, and 9 per cent was still outstanding at the end of the 1981.

So far, all the brave talk about food and sectoral strategies - and the British would like the commitment of food policy explicitly written into the next convention - there must be serious doubts about the capacity of both the EEC and ACP bureaucracies to administer the funds as efficiently as the European taxpayer has a right to expect.

In any case, the significance of aid is debatably symbolic. Huge though the sums seem, they pale beside the importance to the ACP of trade with the EEC. The ECU 600m spent by the EEC in 1982 in aid under Lomé I and 2 was a mere 3 per cent of the value of ACP exports to the community that year. While the ACP countries' disappointment at the volume of aid will have a ritual quality this time round, their dismay about the paucity of concessions over trade has more substance.

The ACP has wanted a relaxation of the rules of origin governing its exports to the EEC, greater generosity in allowing exceptions (derogations) to the list of excluded products, and modifications to the Common Agricultural Policy which would stop or reduce the quantity of goods, notably sugar, dumped on the world market.

Concessions have been strongly resisted by Greece and Italy, and from the sidelines by Spain and Portugal who hope soon to join the EEC, because of the implied threat to their agricultural trade.

The British have pressed for less stringent rules of origin, and it is possible that the new convention will incorporate some modifications. Nevertheless, the chances of such changes having a discernible impact on the poorest African countries within the ACP are small.

Hill Woolgar gears up for market launch

By Our City Staff

It is not often that a company heading for the stock market gives investors the chance to climb aboard several months before the big day. But that, in effect, is what Hill Woolgar, the issuing house, is doing with its £3m cash-raising operation through the issue of up to 2 million shares at 150p each.

The company, founded three years ago by Mr Laurence Hill and Mr John Woolgar, has its own shares traded on the basis of matched bargains. It is planning to graduate to the Stock Exchange's Unlisted Securities Market on October.

But, with the opportunism which has been a hallmark of the business in its short life, it is

asking the public for money now so that it can, among other things, maintain its holdings in some of its own clients. A doubling in the level of turnover has meant that it needs an injection of working capital.

Although it is too early in the group's financial year to make a profits forecast, the directors expect to increase the year's dividend from 4p to 5p gross, making a yield of 3.33 per cent at the 150p issue price. The carrot is that this should be enhanced by the USM quotation, when more shares will be marketed at what all concerned will hope is an even higher price.

Greene King

BREWERS, BURY ST. EDMUNDS



STEADY GROWTH

reports Mr. John Bridge, the Chairman

	52 weeks to 29 April 1984 £000	52 weeks to 1 May 1983 £000
Turnover	74,221	68,203
Profit before tax	8,756	8,011
Taxation	3,537	2,781
Profit after tax	5,219	5,230
Dividends	1,802	1,634

◆ Our own pubs achieved slightly higher sales of beer by volume, which was encouraging.

◆ New corporate livery based on the original Greene King plaque is being adopted.

◆ The future for East Anglia looks to be one of relative prosperity, but we are facing keen competition and economic recovery is slow.

Copies of the full Report and Accounts will be available on 23 July 1984.

When did you last buy a car that smelled as good as this new Ford Granada?

Remember leather upholstery and that lovely fragrance that greets you when you open the car door? To many people it's the ultimate luxury.

Well today, once again, you can buy a Ford Granada with leather seats. It's the new top of the line Ghia X Executive which is now available in limited numbers; limited because the top grade hides which are supplied by Connolly take over 800 hours each to tan, soften and turn into fully dressed leather.

But, of course, you don't have to buy a Granada with leather seats if you don't want to. Those who prefer cloth will find any of the Ghia X models just as comfortable.

standard too. It's particularly pleasant if you're ever caught in one of those frustrating summer traffic jams.

Then again, you could always open the sun roof. That's electrically operated too. As are the windows. And the heated door mirrors.

But perhaps the greatest luxury the 2.8 litre Granadas have to offer is the luxury of power. No matter what you ask of them, the silky-smooth V6 engines

always seem to have so much in reserve that you never feel as if they're having to try very hard.

The ease of driving is assisted by power steering which, though finger-tight at parking speed, still gives you plenty of "road feel" when you're driving faster.

As you'd expect, the automatic gearbox is standard.

And the suspension, while tuned to smooth your way round town, feels reassuringly firm on the open road. Meanwhile, there's a splendid display of instruments on the dashboard.

An onboard computer is standard so, among other things, you can monitor your average speed and fuel consumption.

An overhead console houses a row of warning lights which alert you to potential problems like low oil level and worn brake pads.

Few drivers are as well informed. But rather than read about it, why not drop in to your Ford dealer and experience the Granada first hand. It may well have the most comfortable seats you'll sit in all day.

With or without leather upholstery.

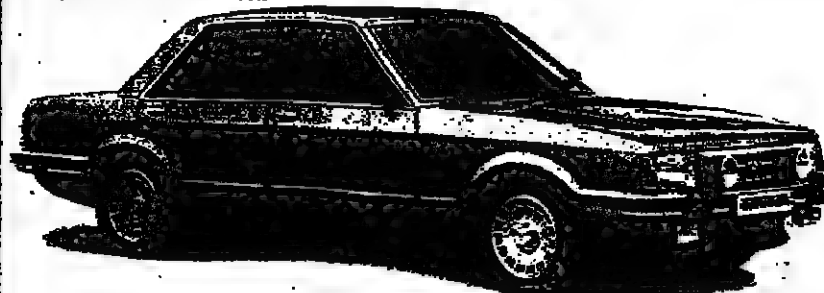
Are you as well informed as the Ford Granada driver? Note the overhead console.

Imagine that you're behind the wheel.

Does the seat position need changing? Easy, it's power-adjusted. So is the front passenger seat.

Does the temperature suit you? If not, you can always turn on the air conditioning. Believe it or not, that's

Driving lights are standard on the Ghia X Executive. Two-tone paint, not shown, is optional at no extra cost.



Ford cares about quality.



Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C.

If you are in any doubt about this document you should consult your Stockbroker, Bank Manager, Solicitor, Accountant or other professional adviser.
Duplicate copies of this document each having attached thereto the documents specified herein, have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration.
This document contains details given in connection with an issue of up to 2,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each of Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. ("the

Company"). The Directors have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated in this document are true and accurate in all material respects and that there are no other facts the omission of which would make misleading any statement in this document whether of fact or opinion and all the Directors accept responsibility accordingly.
It is the present intention of the Directors to apply to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the grant of permission to deal in the Ordinary Shares of the Company in

the Unlisted Securities Market during the latter part of this year.
Pending this a subsidiary of the Company will continue to match bargains in the Company's shares (see section headed "DEALINGS IN THE COMPANY'S SHARES").
The Subscription List for the Ordinary Shares now being issued will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 27th June, 1984 and may be closed at any time thereafter.

Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C.

(Licensed Dealer in Securities and Member of NASDIM)

(Registered in England under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1981 with the Number 827927)

ISSUE of up to 2,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 in the Company at £1.50p per share payable in full on acceptance

BACKGROUND TO THE ISSUE

CAPITAL RAISING ABILITY

Hill Woolgar now has some 1,100 shareholders who enjoy priority rights to our new issues as and when practical or permissible. The Company enjoys an increasing workload. This workload, particularly brought about by the introduction of the Business Expansion Scheme, required a further expansion in our placing ability. This was initially met by the introduction of our Business Expansion Scheme Register, which currently lists some 1,300 potential investors who are not shareholders in Hill Woolgar. We now require to widen further our base of capital raising capability since some future issues will be of a larger size than hitherto. For example we must be in a position to arrange the underwriting of rights issues for client companies and we must also be in a position to arrange offers for sale which tend to be larger than £3 million.

We require more capital for our planned expansion for use in four important areas:—

(1) INVESTMENT HOLDINGS

We pursue a policy of investing in client companies at the time of the original issue. Many of these companies are in a development stage and therefore little dividend income may be expected initially. Capital gain on these investments tends to arise when dividend payments are commenced and/or the client companies are floated on the USM. Two examples of such investments are mentioned in this document: the bulk of our investment in Mercantile has appreciated by a minimum of 250% since our original investment and all our investment in Falcon Resources has appreciated by over 300%. Young companies, although obviously more risky investments, do have a greater inherent capital gain potential. By virtue of our current new issue workload, a number of new exciting investment possibilities are now under review and part of the proceeds of this issue will be used to maintain our investment programme. Pending such investments, the capital will be placed on interest-earning accounts.

LETTER FROM J. WOOLGAR

Managing Director

We are confident that as our first wave of investments mature and corporation tax rates come closer into line with capital gains tax rates, we may begin a process of revolving our investments. We can also expect a significant increase in dividend income.

(2) OTC MARKET OPERATIONS

We did not originally envisage activity or income from this area. It is, however, now assuming a rapidly growing importance both in terms of service to investors and profitability to the Group. The USM did not do for young businesses all that it could have done but the advent of the Business Expansion Scheme gave a most important boost to this, then almost unknown, sector of City activities. OTC operations are of major significance in the United States and are clearly set to grow rapidly here, particularly when rules of conduct have been established by NASDIM. We have carefully controlled the development of this side of our business, paying particular attention to the recruitment of relevant staff, the control of credit, the monitoring of positions, and the necessity to create a sharp distinction between market making and the giving of investment management advice. As a result, we do not manage any client funds and we do not give personal investment advice.

We are now confident that further investment in this part of our operations is justified and accordingly part of the proceeds of this issue will be so used, since significant expansion is planned.

(3) THE CITY CHANGE

It would seem inevitable that the possibly unwarranted pressure on The Stock Exchange for change will result in the cessation of single capacity. It would seem ironic that The Stock Exchange appears to be moving in the opposite direction to Lloyds. The existence of "jobbing" firms has, we

think, done more for investor protection than is generally realised. We support and will continue to support the activities of The Stock Exchange but if change is to come, exciting opportunities will arise. We could, for example, apply for membership of The Stock Exchange in a "market making" capacity. Whatever course we decide to adopt, further capital will be required and accordingly part of the proceeds of the issue will be placed on interest-earning accounts awaiting the final outcome of the Stock Exchange's deliberations on its future. We see no need to rush into purchases of interests in Stock Exchange member firms at the present time. When the rules are known, we know that we can recruit the relevant staff.

(4) ACQUISITIONS

Exciting opportunities now exist for the acquisition of controlling interests in companies operating in fields of related endeavour which could enhance the Group's operation. Whilst no such acquisition is currently under discussion, we know that a liquid balance sheet will materially assist us in any such negotiations.

CONCLUSION

Hill Woolgar, with no existing borrowings, is raising further equity capital, the whole of which (less expenses) will be used for its expansion. Subject to unforeseen circumstances the dividend will be increased on the enlarged capital and the Directors are confident that a further increase in profitability will accrue.

From its inception three years ago, the Group has established a record of profit growth and will apply to The Stock Exchange for a USM quotation. We currently envisage that this will be effected by way of an introduction.

J. WOOLGAR
Managing Director
21st June, 1984

INTRODUCTION

This issue gives investors an opportunity to participate in the fast but controlled growth of an issuing house which over the last three years has demonstrated its ability to provide not only traditional corporate financial services, but also some of the other services now required by the changing face of the City of London.

The Group commenced business in its present form in April 1981. Since that date it has acted as the issuing house or financial advisers in 21 public issues and marketing operations (including 5 on the USM and 3 under the Business Expansion Scheme) and has established its Over-the-Counter ("OTC") Market in which it makes a market in 7 stocks.

For the year ended 31st December, 1983 pre-tax profits amounted to £320,000 compared with £248,000 in the previous year and £93,000 in the six months inaugural period to 31st December, 1981.

The net proceeds of the issue are required solely for the expansion of the Group and to extend its capital base.

SHARE CAPITAL

Authorised £	Issued or to be issued fully paid or credited as fully paid £
8,850,000	4,858,500*
	in 8,850,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each
150,000	101,630
	in 3,000,000 Convertible Deferred Shares of 5p each
9,000,000	4,960,130

*assuming full subscription of this issue.

The rights attached to the respective classes of shares in the capital of the Company are set out below in the paragraph entitled "Articles of Association" under "Statutory and General Information". The Ordinary Shares to be issued will rank pari passu in all respects with the existing issued Ordinary Shares of the Company and in full for all dividends hereafter declared or paid except that they will not rank for the interim dividend of 1.4p per Ordinary Share declared on 21st June, 1984. The basis for allotment will be at the discretion of the Directors.

At the close of business on 31st May, 1984, the Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") did not have outstanding, or created but unissued, any loan capital (including term loans), mortgages, charges or indebtedness in the nature of borrowing (excluding inter-group liabilities), including bank overdrafts and liabilities under acceptances or acceptance credits, hire purchase commitments, guarantees or any other material contingent liabilities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS

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Directors
Laurence Dennis Gregory Hill, (Chairman)
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John Woolgar,
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105 Ramoth Road,
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Old Jewry, London EC2R 8HR

Manchester Office
139/140 Royal Exchange,
St. Ann's Square, Manchester M2 7RY

Bankers
National Westminster Bank PLC
31 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AN
Williams & Glyn's Bank PLC
67 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3DL

Midland Bank PLC,
55 Victoria Street,
Grimsby, South Humberside, DH31 1VX

**Auditors and
Reporting Accountants**
Thornton Baker,
Fairfax House,
Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6DW

Solicitors
Cardale,
Dauntsey House,
Frederick's Place,
Old Jewry, London EC2R 8HR

HISTORY

The Company was incorporated on 19th November, 1964 as a private company limited by shares under the name of Trimshire Limited. Its name was changed to Trimshire Securities Limited on 9th September, 1980 and on 1st May, 1981 it was re-registered as a public limited company pursuant to the Companies Act 1980 and changed its name to Hill Woolgar & Company P.L.C. It was shortly before this date that Mr. Laurence Hill and Mr. John Woolgar, the Chairman and the Managing Director, became associated with the Company and the Company acquired its major trading subsidiaries.

Until May 1981 the Group's activities were minimal. However on 14th May, 1981 the Company issued a prospectus and successfully raised approximately £3m by a placing of its shares amongst institutions and private investors. Immediately thereafter the Group commenced its present business.

In April 1981 the Company acquired its head office in the City of London and in June 1981 it acquired its first branch office in Manchester.

The Company is a Licensed Dealer in Securities and a Member of the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers ("NASDIM"). Mr. John Wild, one of the Company's Directors, serves on a committee of that Association. NASDIM is an association of dealers in securities, recognised by the Secretary of State and, as such, is a self-regulatory body with its own rules. Three of the subsidiary companies are holders of Principal's Licences as Licensed Dealers in Securities and four employees hold Representatives Licences. A further five employees have applied for Representatives Licences.

BUSINESS

The Group's business is centred around its corporate finance department and its Over-the-Counter Market. Specialising in the raising of equity finance from the public for small to medium sized businesses, the Group has to date progressed considerably further than was anticipated in 1981.

Initially the Group concentrated on placings in the USM. However, with the introduction of the Business Expansion Scheme the Group's OTC operation became of even greater importance. The aggregate dealings in OTC stocks by the Group from April 1983 to May 1984 amounted to 3,560 bargains involving over £12.5m of purchases and sales.

The Group has been directly responsible for raising some £16.5m for clients and indirectly connected (e.g. by underwriting) with the raising of substantial sums.

The Group's involvement with its clients does not cease after a successful issue. It is Group policy to seek Board representation and three or five year financial services agreements with client companies. This not only proves a useful source of recurrent income but ensures that clients' businesses are monitored for the protection of the client's shareholders.

Secretarial and registration services are also provided by the Group. The Directors consider that rapid and efficient delivery of clients' stocks is of the utmost importance and accordingly insist that client companies in whose shares an OTC market is to be made should appoint the Company as its Registrars.

OPERATING PROFILE

The publicity given to the Group's activities has resulted in a steady stream of applications for assistance from companies contemplating raising equity capital. A small experienced team assess these propositions and the most promising are then considered at Board level.

Promising businesses are assisted in a number of ways. Money for some is raised on the USM, for others there are placings under the Business Expansion Scheme, for others placings assisted by an OTC market in the client company shares and for others, smaller pre-placings of shares intended to lead to a USM, BES or OTC placing later. All the Group's BES placings to date have been backed up by an OTC Market in the relevant stock enabling participation by investors who either do not wish, or are unable, to take advantage of the relevant tax relief.

The Group takes investment positions in most of its client company shares but, in future, does not intend, in general, to commit more than 5 per cent. of its assets to any one security at cost.

The ultimate objective for most client companies (whether BES or OTC) is that they should graduate to the USM or to a full listing. The Board conducts the Company's activities in accordance with Stock Exchange procedures and urges its clients to do the same. There is now a growing number of clients in the Group's stable being groomed for the USM.

The OTC activity is conducted by a number of dealers most of whom have been members of The Stock Exchange. To assist the activity, the Group runs a dealing book and acts as principal. The size of any commitment is constantly monitored.

Placing of client company shares is normally achieved by the issue of a prospectus which has been carefully compiled with the assistance of experienced professional advisers. Great importance is attached to the status of the Reporting Accountants. Hitherto USM placings have been offered to the Company's shareholders (in priority to others) in proportion to their shareholdings in the Company and BES or OTC placings have been offered to the Company's shareholders and others in accordance with the demand generated by a pre-placing circular. As offers grow in size more institutional involvement becomes essential but, where practicable, priority will be given to existing shareholders (including those holding the new shares comprised in this issue) provided that they hold at least 1,000 Ordinary Shares.

The Group has not been geared by overdrafts or loans except for short term overdrafts in respect of OTC operations. The Group has no associate companies nor any industrial subsidiaries. As the Group's capital base expands the Directors may relax these policies to a modest extent.

The Directors are currently considering the possibility of acquisitions (which may involve the issue of the Company's shares) of companies in the financial sector to further strengthen the Group. No significant acquisition will be made without the approval of shareholders in general meeting.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

The business of the Group is carried on by a small specialist team headed by the Directors who have a wide range of business experience and extensive commercial, industrial and City connections.

Mr. Laurence Hill, Chairman, (55) has considerable commercial experience having formerly been Managing Director of the retail division of BAT. Chairman of BAT Stores Holdings (UK) Limited and Managing Director of Thomas Cook Limited. He is currently a Director of a number of public companies, many of which are clients of the Group.

Mr. John Woolgar, Deputy Chairman & Managing Director, (44) has overall responsibility for the operations of the Group. He was a member of The Stock Exchange from 1973 to 1980 and has been engaged for many years in stockbroking, portfolio management and has considerable experience of new issues. He has a wide general experience of corporate work and in particular of the needs of small companies. Mr. Woolgar has a service agreement with the Company (see Statutory and General Information below).

Mr. Martin Kinney, FCA, Finance Director, (44) has spent the majority of his working life in the City. He was formerly employed by the United Dominions Trust Group in a number of roles including directorships of various subsidiaries and the holding company for the United Dominions Trust Group's overseas interests, UDT International Limited. Mr. Kinney has wide experience of corporate finance work and is a director of a number of the Group's clients.

Mr. Francis Gerard Mulryan, FCA, (64) has over 20 years experience in management and financial control of listed public companies, including 8 years as Chairman of British Benzol Carbonising Limited and 10 years as a Director of Morgan Edwards Limited. Mr. Mulryan has over 30 years experience of corporate finance work including the flotation of over 20 public companies. Mr. Mulryan is in charge of the Manchester office of the Group and is also a non-executive director of a number of public companies.

Mr. E. John Wild, JP, (50) has considerable experience in the North West of England in stockbroking and in dealing with property, corporate and banking work. He was a former assistant secretary of the Manchester Stock Exchange. Mr. Wild is an active member of a Committee of NASDIM.

Mr. Reno Dipre, (49) (Non-Executive) is the controlling shareholder of a private company, Starwest Investment Holdings Limited, based in Epsom, which he has built up personally and which has extensive investments in property, house building, electronics, engineering and retailing. He has served on the boards of a number of listed companies.

Mr. John Frederic Miller, (48) (Non-Executive) has extensive property experience and was responsible for building the first supermarket in the U.K. in 1971. He sold that to Fine Fare in 1973 and is resident in Jersey, he is also a Director of a number of overseas companies.

The Directors intend, in due course, to co-opt to the Board further non-executive directors of proven ability and experience.

In addition to the Directors there are a further 15 executives and administrative staff.

PREMISES

The main business of the Group is carried on from premises at 5 Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London under a lease for a term of 15 years expiring on 24th March, 1993 at an exclusive current rental of £28,500 per annum (subject to review on 25th March, 1988). Additional premises in the City are currently being sought to house the further staff necessitated by the growth of the Group.

The Manchester office carries on business from premises at 139/140 Royal Exchange Buildings, St. Ann's Square, Manchester under a lease for a term of 5 years expiring on 24th June, 1987 at an exclusive annual rental of £2,100.

PROFITS AND PROSPECTS

The Directors intend to make a profits forecast when application is made for the Ordinary Shares of the Company to be dealt in on the Unlisted Securities Market later this year, but they do not intend to make a detailed profits forecast in this document since the majority of the Company's profits is, on past experience, earned in the second half of the year.

The increasing workload now being handled by the Group augurs well for a further improvement in profits as stated by the President in the 1983 Report and Accounts, disregarding any profits resulting from the use of the net proceeds of this issue.

Two client companies in which the Group has now material unrealised investment profit, Falcon Resources PLC and Mercantile PLC, are planning to come to the USM this year and there are two other USM placings planned. At least ten OTC and BES placings are also in the pipeline. This increased activity should lead not only to increased fee income, but also to a doubling of the number of stocks in which the Group makes an OTC Market.

The Directors are confident that, subject to unforeseen circumstances, the Group can look forward to a profitable and active future.

DIVIDENDS

An interim dividend of 1.4p net per Ordinary Share (2p gross) was declared on 21st June, 1984 in respect of the current year payable on 10th July, 1984 to those Shareholders on the register on 21st June, 1984. The Directors forecast that, subject to unforeseen circumstances, a final dividend for the year ending 31st December, 1984 of not less than 2.1p net per Ordinary Share (3p gross) will be recommended on the increased share capital making total dividends of 3.5p net (5p gross) for the year (1983—2.9p net (4p gross)).

In future years the Directors intend to recommend payment of an interim dividend in September and a final dividend in May of each year.

REASONS FOR AND APPLICATION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE ISSUE

Expanding businesses inevitably need further working capital and the business of the Group is no exception. The whole of the net proceeds of the issue will be used as working capital to assist the growth of the Group.

Funds are required to assist the expansion of the OTC Market operation. This market making involves the Group acting as jobbers and holding stocks as principals so that further capital is needed as the number of stocks "dealt in" increases.

The increasing level of activity in the Group's OTC operations can be illustrated by the near doubling of aggregate dealings for the five month period from January to May from £3.4 million in 1983 to £6.7 million in 1984.

Additional capital will also enable the Group to maintain its policy of investing in client companies and to invest in or acquire other attractive situations which become available from time to time.

WORKING CAPITAL

The Directors consider that the Group has sufficient working capital for its present requirements and will conduct its further activities so that, having regard to the net proceeds of the issue, trading will be conducted within the limits of the working capital available.

DEALINGS IN THE COMPANY'S SHARES

The Company's Ordinary Shares are marketable securities within the limitations of a matched bargain basis which are arranged by the dealing staff of the Company. Since the original placing in May 1981 at least one million Ordinary Shares have changed hands with a low price recorded at 90p and a high price of £1.60p.

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CRICKET: TODAY RAMADHIN SPINS THE 'RIGHT' UNS' ACROSS THE BAR COUNTER

From the toast of Lord's to the landlord of the White Lion

From the toast of Lord's to the landlord of the White Lion

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CRICKET: FOWLER AND PARTNER MAKE A RESOLUTE STAND THAT WARMS LORD'S

England emerge in a broad new light

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: England have scored 167 in their first innings against India.

An admirably dogged innings by Fowler and a encouraging first appearance by Broad gave England a full share of the honours when the second Test match, sponsored by Comhill, started yesterday. For England's first wicket these two added 101 after Lloyd, with his fast bowlers straining at the leash, chosen to field. By the end of the day England were 167-1, with Fowler and Broad still in possession.

Three-figure opening partnerships against this West Indian side are greatly coveted. The only other one in the last two years (for 34 innings) was by Gavaskar and Chakravarti at Ahmedabad last November. The average opening stand against West Indies in the 18 innings before yesterday, by India, Australia and England, was 10.

Holding's absence was, of course, a help to England. Even so, Broad and Fowler did nobly. Broad's batting being an unexpected bonus. He was fortunate to play this of all innings, on such a good pitch. The bounce was even and at the start of the day there was no extravagant lateral movement. But the way he swayed clear of the fast, steeply lifting ball was most impressive. He never took his eye off it and never ducked.

Fowler can always be relied upon to fight his corner, so that at tea, when he and Broad were still together, spirits were high. The last session, played in



One occasion when Broad had no choice but to take a fast ball from Marshall sitting down

most fading light, was a different story. In a superb spell of fast bowling, in which the ball cut this way and that at high speed, Marshall accounted for Broad and Gower and had Fowler and Lamb hanging on for dear life. With Garner in support, West Indies showed their claws for the first time, and England a resolution which warmed their supporters.

Small for Holding is the only change from the West Indian side who won the first Test so easily. England preferred Foster to Cowans. By the time the match started, we had had the best of the day, sunshine having given way to cloud. But the ground was already full. As Gower signalled to the England players that they were batting, he must have done so with mixed feelings. The batsmen, I imagine, would rather have been fielding, at any rate until Broad and Fowler began to show some form.

Lloyd gave the new ball to Small, as Garner's partner, which was surprising. He is, as yet, nothing like as dangerous a bowler as Marshall, or as fast. By the time Marshall bowled, after 10 overs, Broad's worst fears were behind him. In 11 balls, hereabouts, he hit five fours, three off Small and two off Garner. Four of them were through the leg side, all sweetly timed off balls well pitched-up. The square boundaries are no longer than one or two of the double greens at St Andrews.

At the first stoppage, after 55 minutes, England had scored 38 from 13 overs. Fowler and Broad were very different in style. Like a vagabond, Fowler darts and bobs about, restless and eager. Broad showed little outward emotion. He looked reassuringly solid. When the players came back for 10 minutes before lunch, Broad was caught at slip off a no-ball from Marshall. I hardly think the catch accounted for the stroke.

Watching England bat was a less anxious business in the afternoon. Fowler gained in confidence and Broad suffered no reaction from his morning success. At 69 Marshall went round the wicket, which represented a moral victory to the batsmen. He would have rather not. By the time, soon afterwards, that Fowler hit his first four, a cover drive off Baptiste, Broad had already hit eight. Of England's more recent left-handers, other than those now playing, who is Broad most likely? Perhaps Subba Row and Puller. He has Brian Close's build, but not, on yesterday's evidence, his temper.

Broad reached his 55 minutes after tea, having batted for two hours, 20 minutes. In the next over the hundred came up. There was another delay of 25 minutes after tea, and at five o'clock, five minutes after the resumption, Broad was caught at slip off a no-ball from Marshall. I hardly think the catch accounted for the stroke.

from Marshall, but in the end he fended at it and, in the end, took an acrobatic catch, one-handed. In Marshall's next over Gower, neither forward nor back, was leg before. Not to squander England's splendid start, after that required on the part of Fowler and Lamb both courage and luck. With more than an hour's play lost, an hour could be added on, and 45 minutes had been when, for the last time, bad light intervened.

Today's fixtures
SECOND TEST MATCH
LORD'S: ENGLAND v WEST INDIES
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (11.00)
CHESTERFIELD: Derbyshire v Essex
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Middlesex
BIRMINGHAM: Lancashire v Somerset
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Gloucestershire
KENT: Kent v Essex
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire
Aldershot: Somerset v Gloucestershire
Worcestershire: Worcestershire v Kent

Scoreboard

ENGLAND: First Innings	
G Fowler not out	78
B C Broad & D Gower	101
A J Lamb not out	13
Extras (b 1, lb 2, w 1, n.b. 3)	10
Total (21 overs)	167
INDIA: First Innings	
I T Bhatnagar	10
D R Pringle	10
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-108, 3-110, 4-111, 5-112, 6-113, 7-114, 8-115, 9-116, 10-117, 11-118, 12-119, 13-120, 14-121, 15-122, 16-123, 17-124, 18-125, 19-126, 20-127, 21-128, 22-129, 23-130, 24-131, 25-132, 26-133, 27-134, 28-135, 29-136, 30-137, 31-138, 32-139, 33-140, 34-141, 35-142, 36-143, 37-144, 38-145, 39-146, 40-147, 41-148, 42-149, 43-150, 44-151, 45-152, 46-153, 47-154, 48-155, 49-156, 50-157, 51-158, 52-159, 53-160, 54-161, 55-162, 56-163, 57-164, 58-165, 59-166, 60-167, 61-168, 62-169, 63-170, 64-171, 65-172, 66-173, 67-174, 68-175, 69-176, 70-177, 71-178, 72-179, 73-180, 74-181, 75-182, 76-183, 77-184, 78-185, 79-186, 80-187, 81-188, 82-189, 83-190, 84-191, 85-192, 86-193, 87-194, 88-195, 89-196, 90-197, 91-198, 92-199, 93-200, 94-201, 95-202, 96-203, 97-204, 98-205, 99-206, 100-207, 101-208, 102-209, 103-210, 104-211, 105-212, 106-213, 107-214, 108-215, 109-216, 110-217, 111-218, 112-219, 113-220, 114-221, 115-222, 116-223, 117-224, 118-225, 119-226, 120-227, 121-228, 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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 6.00 **Ceebeek AM**.
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Fern Britton. News from Debbie Fife at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.10, 7.45 and 8.15; television choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening hints between 7.30 and 7.45; pop music news between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.25; food and cookery hints between 8.30 and 9.00.
- 9.00 **Summer Harty**. Russell Harty begins a six week jaunt around Britain's resorts beginning in Bristol where he attempts to outwit Flunking and joins in a sedan race (r).
- 9.30 **Ceebeek**. 10.30 **Play School**, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey.
- 10.55 **Cricket: Second Test**. Coverage of the second day's play at Lord's in the match between England and the West Indies.
- 1.05 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Cowardale. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 1.22 **Regional News** (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines).
- 1.25 **Heads and Tails**. A see-saw programme for the very young, with Derek Griffiths (r).
- 1.40 **Cricket: Second Test** and **Wimbledon 84**. Peter West introduces the action from Lord's and a small section of the tennis action from the All England Club. 4.18 **Regional News** (not London).
- 4.20 **Play School**, presented by Brian Cant. 4.45 **Weekend Review**. 4.55 **Newsround**. 5.00 **News** with John Craven and Paul McDowell. This week there is an investigation into whether or not pop fan clubs offer good value for money. 5.05 **Children of Fire Mountain**. Episode five of the 13-part series set in New Zealand at the turn of the century. 5.35 **Barbarians** (r).
- 5.40 **Stacy Martin** with news from Jan Leeming at 5.40; weather at 5.45; regional magazines at 5.55; and news headlines at 6.38.
- 6.40 **Cartoon**: Tom and Jerry in Lonesome Mouse and Jerry and Jumbo.
- 6.55 **Mike Read's Replay**. Selection. Pop videos first seen on Saturday SuperStars. Arnie Brown requested this evening are Duran Duran, Queen, Billy Joel, Howard Jones and Tracey Ullman.
- 7.40 **Fanta**. A blind teacher returns to School of Arts to direct a play but when his romantic overtures to Lydia are not returned he resigns. Starring blind actor, Tom Sullivan.
- 8.30 **Odd One Out**. Quiz game show presented by Paul Daniels.
- 9.00 **News** with Sue Lawley.
- 9.25 **Starky and Hutch**. Starky has a woman trouble this evening as he hides a girl from an officer and the police. This girl is unappreciative of Starky's help and makes life very awkward for the free and easy policeman (r).
- 10.15 **Wimbledon 84**. Desmond Lynn introduces highlights from the Match of the Day.
- 11.15 **The Climber**. Part two of the comedy series by Alex Shorr starring Robin Newbold who tonight has the task of returning a borrowed car with a large dent in its side to its owner (r).
- 11.45 **News** headlines and weather.
- 11.50 **Film: The Crack Factory** (1979). Starring Natalie Wood and Juliet Mills. Drama with a comic edge about a Caribbean housewife's battle with the vodka bottle. Directed by Burt Brinckerhoff. Ends at 1.25.

TV-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Horscombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; best food buys at 6.40; 6.45; 7.00; 7.15; 7.30; 7.45; 7.55; 8.05; 8.15; 8.25; 8.35; 8.45; 8.55; 9.05; 9.15; 9.25; 9.35; 9.45; 9.55; 10.05; 10.15; 10.25; 10.35; 10.45; 10.55; 11.05; 11.15; 11.25; 11.35; 11.45; 11.55; 12.05; 12.15; 12.25; 12.35; 12.45; 12.55; 1.05; 1.15; 1.25; 1.35; 1.45; 1.55; 2.05; 2.15; 2.25; 2.35; 2.45; 2.55; 3.05; 3.15; 3.25; 3.35; 3.45; 3.55; 4.05; 4.15; 4.25; 4.35; 4.45; 4.55; 5.05; 5.15; 5.25; 5.35; 5.45; 5.55; 6.05; 6.15; 6.25; 6.35; 6.45; 6.55; 7.05; 7.15; 7.25; 7.35; 7.45; 7.55; 8.05; 8.15; 8.25; 8.35; 8.45; 8.55; 9.05; 9.15; 9.25; 9.35; 9.45; 9.55; 10.05; 10.15; 10.25; 10.35; 10.45; 10.55; 11.05; 11.15; 11.25; 11.35; 11.45; 11.55; 12.05; 12.15; 12.25; 12.35; 12.45; 12.55; 1.05; 1.15; 1.25; 1.35; 1.45; 1.55; 2.05; 2.15; 2.25; 2.35; 2.45; 2.55; 3.05; 3.15; 3.25; 3.35; 3.45; 3.55; 4.05; 4.15; 4.25; 4.35; 4.45; 4.55; 5.05; 5.15; 5.25; 5.35; 5.45; 5.55; 6.05; 6.15; 6.25; 6.35; 6.45; 6.55; 7.05; 7.15; 7.25; 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were sanguine about the identity of their victors, the crunch may come at the weekend if the Cantabrigians beat a Canadian crew in the semi-final of the Thames Cup. The Canadians are likely to observe the conditions of the Gleneagles agreement on sporting links with South Africa and withdraw from the competition.

This threat was taken very seriously indeed by BSC Mr Scholey said that, as of yesterday, coal and ore were being delivered from Port Talbot docks to the Llanwern plant by road at the rate of 30,000 tons a week to maintain production.

Stocks of iron ore on the ground at Ravenscraig and Scunthorpe were good, Mr Scholey said, and can be maintained by road.

"At Scunthorpe, we will mount a similar operation before the rail people get to that lot," Mr Scholey continued.

Mr Barrett's winning card was made up thus:

The Home Office is considering whether motorists given a drink-drive test on a Lion Intoximeter in Carlisle should be recommended for a free pardon after the Cumbria police referred details of about 190 cases to it.

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
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